SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1987 $2.80

CB Action

AUSTRALIA'S ONLY CB MAGAZINE

WE TEST:
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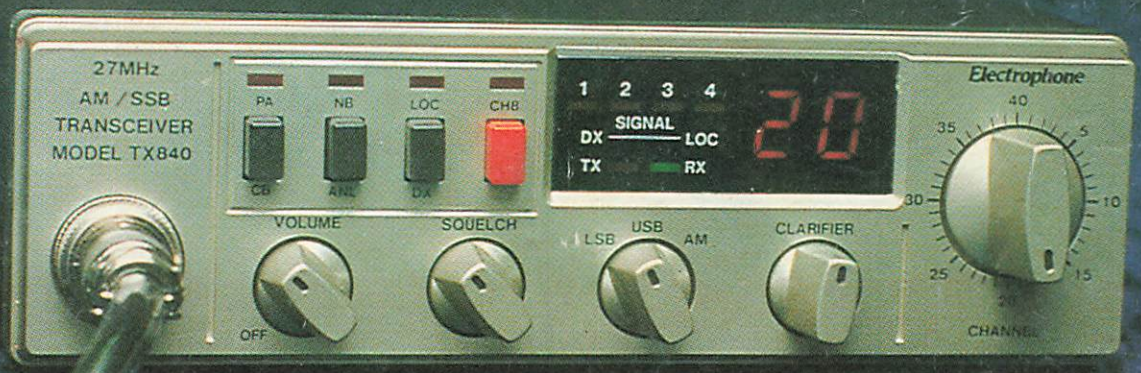
UNIDEN UH-005 HANDHELD UHF
ROYCE AUS-100 UHF MOBILE

CB ACTION/SPR WORDMAZE COMPETITION
WIN AN SPR SCANTENNA



USER REPORT: SPR'S NEW SCANTENNA
IS THERE LIFE AFTER 40 CHANNELS ?

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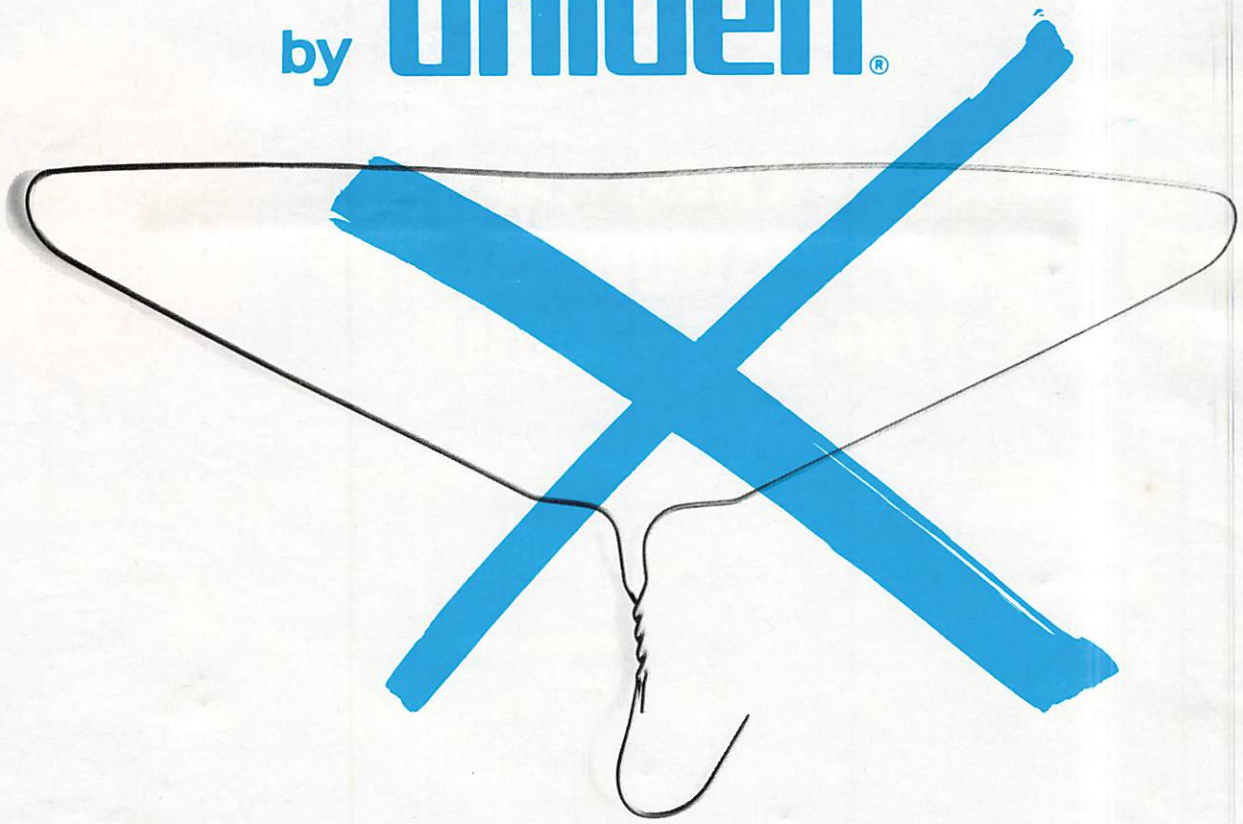

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CB Action regrets that it is not possible for it to verify information other than that conveyed in editorial content of the publication. Although CB Action uses its best endeavours to ensure the accuracy of everything it publishes, the Fair Trading Act 1985 requires CB Action to disclaim any belief in the truth or falsity of information which is supplied to it and which is published in other than editorial content.

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On Channel

You will know by now that inflation has caught up with us again, hence the increased cover price as from this issue. If you had been smart, you would have taken out a year's subscription in advance and saved yourself a couple of bucks — and the trip to the newsagent to pick up your copy.

★ ★ ★

Obviously, our group made it through the Simpson Desert despite the fact that Fred was along. You will catch up with a bit more about the trip further on in this issue, but I thought you'd like to know that Fred had an uneventful trip, apart from trying to take a salt lake at 120kph — not a recommended technique. Suffice to say that the result was spectacular. He disappeared in a sheet of spray and reappeared 50 yards off the "track", still right side up, but only just. His opening remarks on the CB were recorded for posterity, but I can't repeat them here . . .

★ ★ ★

My spies tell me that there are a few bitches from readers regarding the amount of advertising we are carrying in each issue. Has it ever occurred to these readers that without the support of the advertisers, there wouldn't be a magazine at all? Maybe you should think about supporting THEM with your business, instead of the five and dime store that sells anything from knitting needles to snake oil — and none of it very professionally.

★ ★ ★

The winner of the CB ACTION/SANTRONICS Wordmaze from last issue was Mr D. Hewerdine of Bundaberg in Queensland. The correct answers to the clues were 1. Hertz; 2. Watt; 3. Metre; 4. Farad; 5. Ampere; 6. Ohm; 7. Volt; 8. Henry; 9. Second; 10. Decibel. Judging by the number of entries, which were down on previous competitions, some of you found the clues a little difficult. Sorry about that, but I had a phone call from a smart-assed operator who had great pleasure in informing me that he knew exactly how the wordmaze was built, and that he would be sending in bulk entries to win the prize. Careful examination of the entries received revealed that he didn't bother — or couldn't get the right answers. I think it could have been the latter. Like I told Fewster — don't mess with the editor, especially if it's near the deadline.

★ ★ ★

Next issue I hope to be able to present a couple of technical articles to help you upgrade your equipment, or to try your hand at constructing. Good project material has been a bit thin on the ground of late, but a couple of readers have responded to our requests for help. Thanks.

★ ★ ★

You will notice that there are two new columns in this issue — one by our star contributor, David Flynn, and there is no prize for guessing the name of the column; the other column is entitled "The Monitor", which is aimed at giving all the emergency monitoring organisations a chance to say their piece. Send your news to the address at the end of that column.

★ ★ ★

I'd like to apologise to the members of the Omega Radio Club for not attending their annual meeting, during which they presented their prestigious "Golden Yagi" award to our worthy David Flynn. I had fully intended to go, but you see they held the meeting on the eve of our departure to the Simpson Desert, and my passenger brought me undone by not turning up with his gear at the appointed hour. As it was, I managed only an hour's sleep before we departed at 4am the next morning. Sorry Omega!

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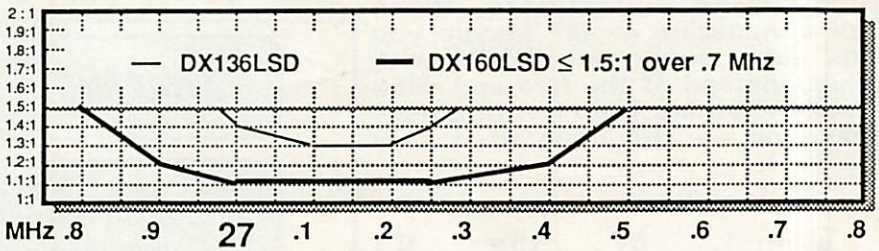

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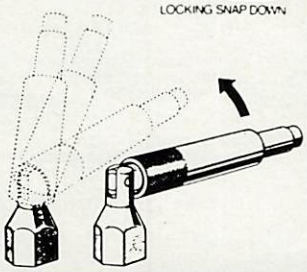

TYPE	MONO POLE HELICAL WHIP
ORDERCODE	DX136LSD / DX148LSD / DX160LSD
LENGTH	36" (93cm) / 48" (1.22m) / 60" (1.53m)
TUNING	CUT TO TUNE
FREQUENCY	26.5 ~ 29 MHz
IMPEDANCE	50 OHMS
MAX.POWER	50 WATTS
TERMINATION	5/16" x 26 TPI - Female
PATTERN	OMNI DIRECTIONAL VERTICAL
APPLICATION	ROOF,GUTTER OR COWL MOUNT
VSWR	≤ 1.5:1 over .7MHz for 60"

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MODEL **DX160SH** HAS BEEN WOUND WITH A **CONSTANT TURN** WINDING WHICH EXHIBITS THE SAME RADIATION PATTERN AS A FULL SIZE QUARTER WAVE WHIP, YET IT IS ONLY 60" (1.53m) LONG !

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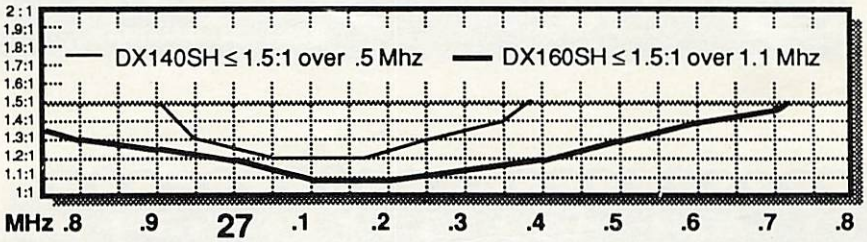
VSWR



SPECIFICATIONS

TYPE	MONO POLE HELICAL WHIP
ORDERCODE	DX125SH / DX140SH / DX160SH
LENGTH	25 " (.9m) / 40" (1m) / 60" (1.53cm)
TUNING	CUT TO TUNE
FREQUENCY	26.5 ~ 29 MHz
IMPEDANCE	50 OHMS
MAX.POWER	50 WATTS
TERMINATION	5/16" x 26 TPI - Female
PATTERN	OMNI DIRECTIONAL VERTICAL
APPLICATION	ROOF or GUTTER MOUNT
VSWR	≤ 1.5:1 over 1.1 MHz for 60"

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LOG BOOK

SYDNEY RADIO FIELD DAY

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then these shots from the first Sydney Radio Field Day should tell it all.

The day was clear and fine, a crisp mid-winter Sunday which helped pull the crowds to the event.

Sponsored by the Sydney Radio Group and held in the grounds of the Sydney CB Radio Centre at the northern suburb of Narrabeen, the field day came after months of preparation by both parties.

As you can see, it was well received by local CBers and some of the not-so-locals, from the west and south-west, made the trip to mix it with their on-air friends.

There were clubs, such as the Sydney Radio Group and the Lima Alpha Radio Club. There were enthusiasts from 27 MHz and UHF, scanner buffs and a sprinkling of hams who revealed their alter ego as CBers. Others, like Sam Voron and his team operating the VK2BVS amateur station from the field day, needed no introduction.

For those keen to do their bit to improve the circulation of cash within the economy, there was heaps of gear to buy — both new and used. There were sausages to consume, and drinks to wet the much-exercised mouths, and as first prize in the raffle, a Philips FM-620 UHF mobile.

But the field day was not only about bringing together CBers from Sydney, or giving a bit of exposure to the Sydney Radio Group and Sydney CB Radio Centre, it also raised money for the NSW Spastic Centre. With over $2000 in turnover of gear bought and sold, and total attendance figures reaching towards the thousand, the field day organisers did a great job.

Congrats to Graham, Dave and the rest of the team for a first-rate first-time field day.

SAWTRON 999 GOES LOCAL!

Australian company Imark, local agents for the dynamic Japanese communications group Kyodo, have commenced local assembly of the popular Sawtron 999 UHF CB radio.

Imark founder and Marketing Manager, Owen Smart, told CB ACTION that the move would have many benefits, for both Imark and its customers.

"Local assembly of the Sawtron 999, from boards and modules manufactured in the very advanced Kyodo factory in Japan, has resulted in a saving in duty costs towards the finished products" he said.

"This, combined with efforts at Kyodo's end, has helped maintain the price of the Sawtron 999 at a very competitive level, at a time when other UHF transceivers fully constructed overseas are rising in cost."

At the same time, Mr Smart also outlined new features on the Sawtron 999 which will improve the ease of operation.

The latest 999s will be programmed so that access to the repeater function, and a new 'repeater reverse' facility, are available as 'channels' keyed directly into the radio via the keypad.

MOBILE ONE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

BOOT MOUNT

S B M STAINLESS BOOT MOUNT

FEATURES

THE MOBILE ONE **STAINLESS BOOT MOUNT** IS AN AUSTRALIAN MADE ANTENNA MOUNTING SYSTEM, DESIGNED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR FRONT OR REAR GUARD MOUNTING AND FITS THE BONNET OR BOOT OF MOST VEHICLES.

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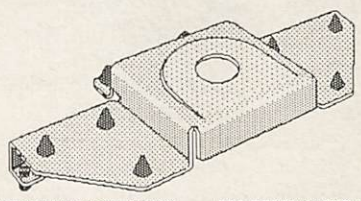
WITH THE ADDITION OF A SUITABLE CONNECTOR SUCH AS THE **S.O.C.** COAXIAL SO239 BASE TYPE, THE MOUNT CAN THEN ACCOMMODATE WHIP ANTENNAE WITH A PL259 BASE TERMINATION.

INSTALLATION

1. INSTALL APPROPRIATE BASE ASSEMBLY ONTO MOUNT.
2. OPEN THE BOOT OR BONNET.
3. SLIDE THE BOOT MOUNT OVER THE LIP OF THE BOOT OR BONNET.
4. SECURE THE STAINLESS STEEL SCREWS WITH THE ALLEN KEY PROVIDED.
5. RUN COAXIAL CABLE INSIDE TO THE TRANSMITTER AND VSWR ANTENNA.



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LOG BOOK

Duplex or repeated channels are now represented as ch. '41-48'. Operation on 'channel 41', for example, puts the user onto the duplex ch. 1/31.

By entering 'channels 51-58', the Sawtron 999 will now monitor the input of the repeater directly, allowing the operator to determine whether their contact is within 'simplex' or direct range. They can then continue their conversation on a clear simplex channel, so that other stations are able to continue using the repeater.

Local assembly has also been adopted for the new Kyodo KG107, a commercial variant of the Sawtron 999 design which operates on the VHF and UHF bands.

Identical to the Sawtron 999, except for their dark grey finish, the KG107 series can provide up to 198 channels and a maximum 40 watts output. Different models of the transceiver are available to cover 66-88 MHz, 136-174 MHz, and 335-520 MHz. Options for the KG107 radios include CTCSS (tone squelch) and 5-tone selcall, remote mounting kit, power supply units, microphone, and base/mobile antenna kits.

Smart says that the KG107 series will not replace the KG105 transceiver range, which have been well received in the commercial radio market.

Instead, both units will be sold concurrently, in addition to the release of the KG105-03 — a low-band VHF model with up to 50 watts output, covering 29-50 MHz.

Imark have also decided to import the innovative KG106, a full duplex radio-telephone mobile for operation in the VHF/UHF bands. The KG106 comes with a standard 25 watt output, telephone-style handset and cradle, remote-mounted transceiver unit and extension speaker. Up to 128 channels are available through the EPROM-driven PLL synthesiser. Full duplex operation has been made possible due to Kyodo's use of an exclusively-designed compact high-efficiency duplexer mounted within the transceiver.

The final addition to the new range for 1987 is the Kyodo KG110 series of repeater/base station units. The KG110 offers up to 99 channels across the VHF/UHF bands, in both desk-top and rack-mount models. Power output extends to 50 watts, or 120 watts with an optional power amplifier/supply.

For further information on any of these transceivers, or full details on the Kyodo range of commercial two-way radios, contact Imark Pty Ltd on (03) 329 5433.

AWARD FOR CBA WRITER

CB ACTION contributor David Flynn has been honored with the Golden Yagi award, presented for outstanding service to UHF CB radio.

The award is made each year by the Melbourne-based Omega Radio Club, Australia's oldest and most respected UHF CB group.

It was presented at the club's Annual General Meeting in June this year, in recognition of Flynn's contribution to the development of the 477 MHz CB service.

The award — a miniature replica of a UHF yagi beam, coated with gold (the real thing?) and suitably mounted — was accepted by Graham Pockett, Flynn's first editor when he commenced writing for 'CB ACTION' in 1979.

A resident Sydney-sider, David was hoping to attend the AGM himself, but was unable to do so due to work commitments. When informed of the award, he responded to the club's executive that he was "honored, pleased and immensely chuffed" to receive the Golden Yagi for 1987.

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RIG REVIEW

UNIDEN'S UH-005 UHF HANDHELD

You've really got to hand it to the industry. Lately they're turning out what is known in the advertising trade as 'good product'. That roughly translates into 'the right gear aimed at the right people for the right price'.

Take our 'big three', for instance. Electrophone kicked off the use of surface-mount techniques in CB radio and made both their HF and UHF radios hard to beat. Hatadi keep on bringing out gear to fit every possible need, with prices to match. And Uniden have reserved their own place in the field with rigs like the new PRO AM Series (reviewed last issue).

Not forgetting those with less wide-ranging interests — Philips, Sawtron, Ranger et al.

What has all this got to do with a UHF handheld? We're getting there . . . the best thing about our market at present is the variety, the range of models which do the same job in different ways.

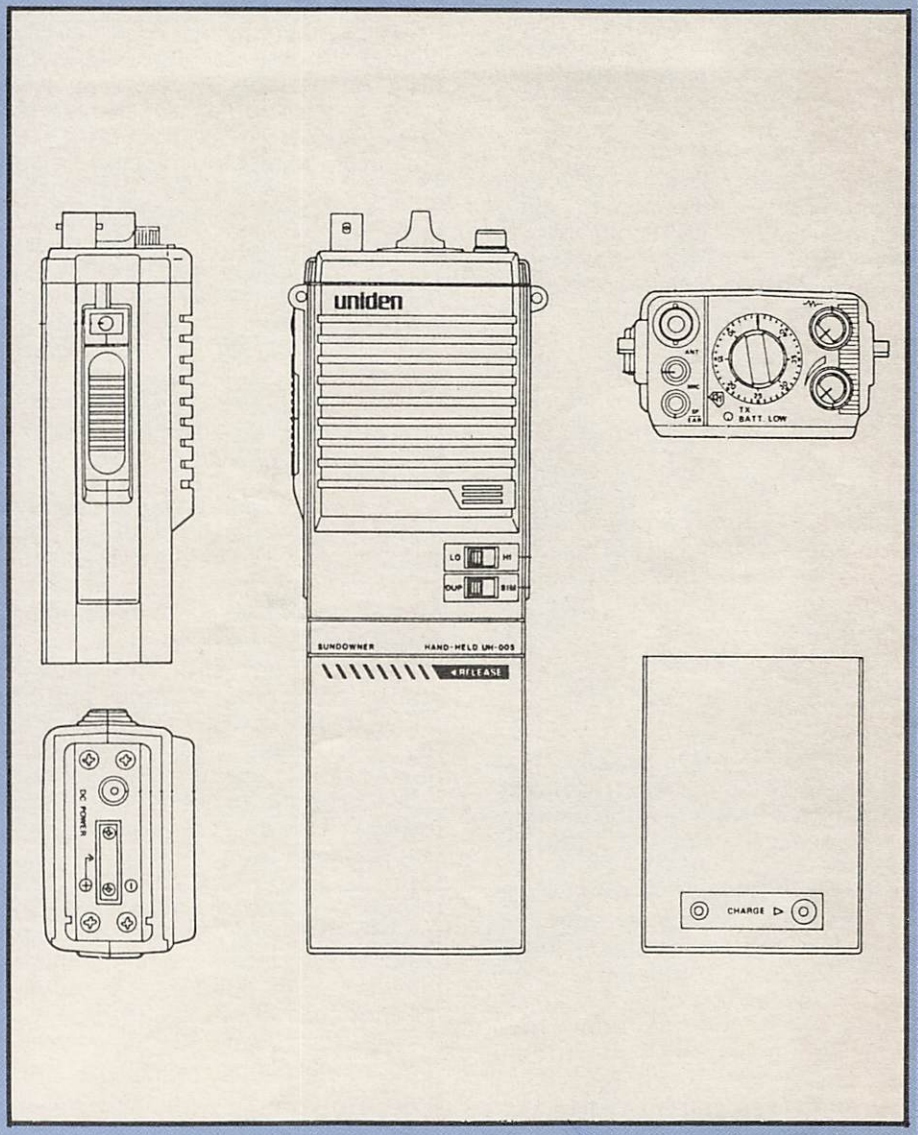
When Icom released the IC-40, the first legitimate UHF CB handheld, it reminded me of an old song title — 'Who could ask for anything more?'. I mean, a 477 MHz handheld is it, right? End of story.

Wrong. End of chapter. Why not use a dial channel selector, instead of thumbwheels, asked Emtronics. How about making it half the size, with almost twice the power output and a rapid charger, said Electrophone.

What about putting a full-power full-feature mobile into a portable carry case, questioned Hatadi and Royce.

Uniden, too, believed in the principle of *'vive le difference'*. They chose a rotary channel dial and a high-capacity extended-use battery pack, to create the 'Sundowner' UH-005 handheld.

See? We told you we'd get here eventually. Patience has its rewards.



The UH-005 sets the right impression from the start. It is well-packed and comes with a nicad pack and charger, whip antenna, belt clip, fabric wrist-strap and plastic protecting plugs for the mike and earphone sockets.

It is noticeably larger than other 477 MHz handhelds, mainly due to the battery pack — which accounts for almost half the over-all size. Dimensions are 65w x 205h x 42d (mm).

RIG REVIEW

Finished in a very dark smoked grey, with occasional touches of white here and there, it is by no means unattractive. The obligatory guided tour of the 005 commences with the front panel.

Just above the battery pack are two slide switches, for output power level (high/low) and mode (simplex/duplex).

Moving upstairs to the top deck, there are the usual sockets for earphone and microphone, in the standard configuration for the use of a speaker/mike (an option). The antenna connector is, as expected, BNC — again standard to all UHF handhelds, allowing other whips to be used.

We've already touched on the rotary channel selector, with channel numbers marked on the outer perimeter of a dial. Below this is a red LED to indicate transmission and low battery level. At the right edge are the on/volume and squelch controls — not labelled as such, but using those international symbols favoured in Japan and Europe.

On the left side panel are the PTT lever and, directly above, a push-switch to activate the lamp beneath the channel dial.

In operation, the UH-005 is easy to use and offers no real difficulties. Larger than the others it may well be, but it fits the hand comfortably and is well-balanced.

The big question relates to the 'extra large extended life battery pack'.

Optional battery packs have been one of the more popular additions to 477 MHz handhelds along with speaker-mikes and 3 dB whip aerials.

These rechargeable nicad packs can offer a higher power output, or a longer life-time at the standard power. Their current supply figures are expressed in mAh, or milli-amp hours — a unit of current over time. Simply put, the higher this figure, the longer the handheld will last at a given current drain.

This is with the proviso that the supply voltage is the same, which is not always the case. Icom's IC-40 runs at 8.4 v nominally, but can be fitted with a high-power battery rated at 10.8 v — the same rating at which the UH-005 purrs along.

Obviously, a higher voltage can equate an increase in power, but at the expense of a reduction in current, a lower mAh figure and thus less hours on air between recharges.

Let's just put it this way. The standard IC-40, like most other handhelds, comes with a 250 mAh battery pack. Their BP5 pack supplies 800 mAh at a higher voltage, but still outlasts the field-issue BP3.

Retaining a lower power output than the IC-40 (nominally 2 watts), the 1.5 w UH-005 comes with a 500 mAh nicad pack, which keeps the Sundowner on air for a good day of solid use.

For anyone who uses their handheld as a business tool — commercial operators, couriers, security firms or the rural UHFer — then a radio which can last for the hours they do is certainly attractive. Take your average man on the land — up at dawn (or earlier), home at dusk. Not too many cockies would be overly impressed with a handheld which gave up half way through the day, especially if a full 1.5 w output was required.

The fact that the UH-005 comes ready to do a full day's work and then some, is one very strong point — even more so when it is cheaper than other handhelds lacking this feature.

Received audio is slightly bassy and well suited to the clarity of FM. At 0.2 watts (200mW), the speaker is adequate for the job. Reports of the transmitted audio were good and it was said to sound 'true'.

The PTT has a definite movement, as does the lamp button above this — which is white in colour. This makes it difficult to accidentally key up or turn the light on.

I found the placement of the front switches to be very pleasing — obviously someone in the design room has thought this through. Instead of placing them on the top of the rig, or even the rear panel (a silly place at any time), here they are with a horizontal movement on the right of the front panel.

When you hold the rig in your right hand (as most people do), both switches can be fairly easily manipulated using the thumb. I suppose the idea of a handheld is, after all, to use only one hand to operate it — not two.

Again, switch movement is positive and the uppermost of the pair — high/low power — is white instead of grey.

The wrist strap is, to pardon the pun, handy, and the use of fabric rather than a stiffer plastic is another small thought for which I was grateful. The strap can be fixed on either side of the radio.

The antenna really lives up to the 'flexi-whip' name — the most flexible I've seen. It will stand up to a lot of bending and punishment without becoming permanently bent — unlike some of us writers. (Speak for yourself sailor. Ed)

Both volume and squelch knobs are squat and flat and easy to adjust. No headaches there.

Being used to thumbwheel channel selection on handhelds, I was surprised how easy it was to adapt to a rotary dial once more. The knob is higher than those for volume and squelch, so moving around the band doesn't alter the settings of these controls accidentally. A small white arrow marked 'CH' points to the chosen channel, or at least it did on my unit. I wouldn't like to live with one out of alignment.

Every fifth channel is numbered — 5, 10 and so on. The others are marked with a small notch. The lamp illuminates in direct relation to where the ch. indicator is pointing and is great for use at night.

This is one of the few straight-out problems with thumbwheels — you cannot see what you are doing. Until someone brings along a handheld with a small shroud above or below the wheels, enclosing a tiny lamp, then here is where a lit dial scores.

On the other hand, it is easier to skip around the band with thumbwheels — especially in the repeater channels and for checking inputs etc.

That said, the only rule is one of personal preference.

Back to the UH-005 and Uniden's handheld borrows from others with the inclusion of small plastic covers for the mike and earphone sockets, to protect them from moisture and dust. The covers use a very firm plastic, perhaps too firm — if you bite your nails, keep a coin or key nearby with which to prise the covering open.

But they've also fixed the covers to a ring underneath the antenna socket. When not in use (with a speaker/mike, for instance), the little devils can be swung around out of the way. Another nice touch, gentlemen.

Along with the UH-005, Uniden lent me three of their options — a

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A hand-held with more scanning power than many base or mobile units. Sixteen channels cover nine bands, including the aircraft band. Your priority frequency is checked automatically every two seconds. The keyboard can be locked to prevent accidental programming. The LCD display is lighted for better night viewing.

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speaker-microphone, 3 dB whip antenna and carry case.

The speaker-mike uses separate components — a dynamic paper speaker and a condenser mike. There is a noticeable improvement in audio, both transmit and receive. The mike is a small square device, but surprisingly good in size and fits the hand well.

Something I failed to notice, until our tech boffin, Allan Kallas brought it up (serves him right for eating it!) was the slight recess into which the mike connector has been fitted. Sure enough, the optional Uniden mike is snug as the proverbial bug — but try using any other speaker-mike or headset device and you're out of luck. The mike plug fails to make full contact with the socket and there is either no transmission or it is touch-and-go.

This could fall into the category of simple design technique. After all, why encourage buyers to use anything other than your own accessories?

I would rather put it into the category of small thinking, or — giving the benefit of the doubt — an oversight. After all, there are a lot of different devices out there, including professional boom headsets, which are catered for by every 477 MHz handheld but this one.

As most of these use a moulded plastic plug, they could be adapted with some judicious use of a utility knife, shaving a few millimetres from the mike plug shroud. But why should UHFers have to go to that much trouble in the first place?

To the optional high-gain antenna, then. As with every other portable I've used, the 3 dB whip is — at about $30 — the best money you can spend to improve your handheld. A ground-independent half-wave, the 30 cm long whip really pulls the signals in and brings your own up from 'scratchy' to 'clearly readable' or even full quieting.

Uniden's carry case for the UH-500 is a gem. Forget about vinyl, or even leather — this is true-blue Aussie kangaroo hide! I suppose somewhere out there a few farmers will be using 477 MHz to round up and shoot reds or greys and they'll be doing it with 005's in 'roo hide cases. The ultimate irony?

It's an extremely well crafted case, finished in grey and smelling just fantastic. My only reservation would be that there is little flex in the side of the case where the PTT and lamp buttons are. There is no great problem to begin with, but I am concerned that, with exposure to the wetter elements, the hide will dampen and shrink as it dries. Now if this happens, I'd be annoyed to find my handheld has died because the tightened case locked on the PTT and/or lamp switches.

The case I was supplied had a marking for a cut-out around the PTT/lamp buttons. I hope that this cut-out is actually made in future carry cases, just to be on the safe side.

The most serious flaw with the UH-005 occurs not within the radio, but as a mere paragraph in the handbook. Page 5 refers to the call channel, ch. 11, as being "reserved by the DOC for emergency communications involving the immediate safety of individuals or the immediate protection of property. Ch. 11 may also be used to render assistance to a motorist".

I don't know how this slipped past the Australian proof reader — if they had one — but it is clearly in error. Channel 5 is reserved for emergencies, not 11.

It could, I suppose, be argued that anyone going to ch. 11 for help will likely find someone to assist them and that anyone using five as a general chit-chat frequency will have the situation explained very quickly. Someone may even reason that the salesman at the shop can tell the buyer that five, not 11, is reserved for emergency use and 11 is for calling.

All of which ignores the fact that the handbook is wrong and should be changed. If Uniden can just alter this paragraph and maybe point out that there are 5/35 repeaters in some cities and ch. 11 is reserved for calling, then my greatest criticism of the UH-005 is obsolete.

From this operator's point of view, the 005 is another little beauty from Uniden. Does a technical man share my feelings? Below, Captain Communications' resident technician, Alan Kallas, lets us know.

But, as I said earlier, there is a lot of good gear around these days — and the Uniden UH-005 is one of the best. It has clean styling, sensible design and performs very well indeed. Who could ask for anything more?

— David Flynn

TECH REPORT

My first impression is that the UH-005 is laid out in similar fashion to the Icom IC-40, on the same sort of chassis. It is a very nice design — I love the hinged circuit boards — Uniden have put the transmitter circuitry on one side and the receiver on the other.

You can actually work on the whole radio because of this layout, just by opening it up. The board is double-sided and there is a lot of space and room to move. It is a nice construction which would be a piece of cake to work on.

It is all surface-mount technology, making it much more rugged than a normal radio and the soldering is nicely done.

Of course you come up against the old argument, do you fit thumbwheels or a 40 channel rotary switch? During the day, or when light conditions are good and you can stop to look at it, I really don't think it makes much of a difference. Thumbwheels are more visible at a distance than a dial, but a switch can be illuminated. It's a question of personal preference, I suppose.

Our test unit had a power output of 1.5 w (high setting) and 0.2 w on low power. This was in line with the specifications, in fact the low power was slightly above the 0.15 w quoted.

The receiver was also better than expected — Uniden claimed a sensitivity of 0.5 uV at 12 dB SINAD, with our UH-005 measuring in at 0.3 uV. Squelch sensitivities were 0.3 uV (threshold) and 1 uV (full), in keeping with the specifications.

I liked the action of the audio limiter, which limited an overmodulated signal without inducing distortion. Normally, by the time you get into limiting, your audio comes out as a square wave! The output was a clean signal at all times and spot on frequency.

The carry case is beautiful. The only thing they didn't do was leave a hole for the push-to-talk and lamp buttons — you'd need to know they were there to use them. On examination, it seems they thought of cutting a hole at one stage, but haven't done so. I'd have that cut out for sure, if the case shrinks it could jam the switches on!

The UH-005 is basically a very nice unit and the price is certainly right.

— Allan Kallas

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The draw will be conducted in the offices of CB ACTION on the closing date, and the results published in the November/December issue of the magazine.

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SPR XLR SCANTENNA

by GREG CROAD

After being bitten by the scanning bug some months ago, I soon became a fully-fledged scanner addict and although I was getting good results with my Saiko and Scantenna discone, I had my sights set on a full-coverage model.

The 100-channel Icom IC-7000 at around $1800 was a bit out of my price range and the AOR-2002 with only twenty memory channels seemed to not quite fit the bill after getting used to having seventy channels. Out of the blue, my local Tandy store came up with the PRO-2004 . . . 300 memory channels and 25 MHz-1300 MHz coverage at only $649. I grabbed one real quick.

The guy who bought my old Saiko wanted my Scantenna as well or "no sale", so I sold it and rang SPR for a replacement, only to be told that they'd quit producing the "original" Scantenna in favour of a new model, the Scantenna-XLR. A bit dearer, but what the hell, it's only money.

A quick exchange of plastic dollars by phone brought the Scantenna-XLR to my door three days later.

What a difference between it and the "original" Scantenna!

Gone were the fiddly little screws and aligning of microscopic holes in the elements which threatened to drive me nuts last time around.

The polished aluminium "head" assembly was drilled and tapped in sixteen places to take the threaded ends of the tubular aluminium elements (the threads were protected by plastic caps . . . nice touch) and I assembled the antenna completely in under fifteen minutes.

The Scantenna-XLR actually has seventeen-elements . . . a short stainless whip is fitted above the cone, obviously to give better performance on lower frequencies.

Cable connection is by an N-type socket fitted in the base of the cone. This socket sits inside the support tube when the antenna is assembled and is fully protected against the weather.

The manufacturers claim that the Scantenna-XLR will perform at least as well as any comparable antenna on the market, regardless of price.

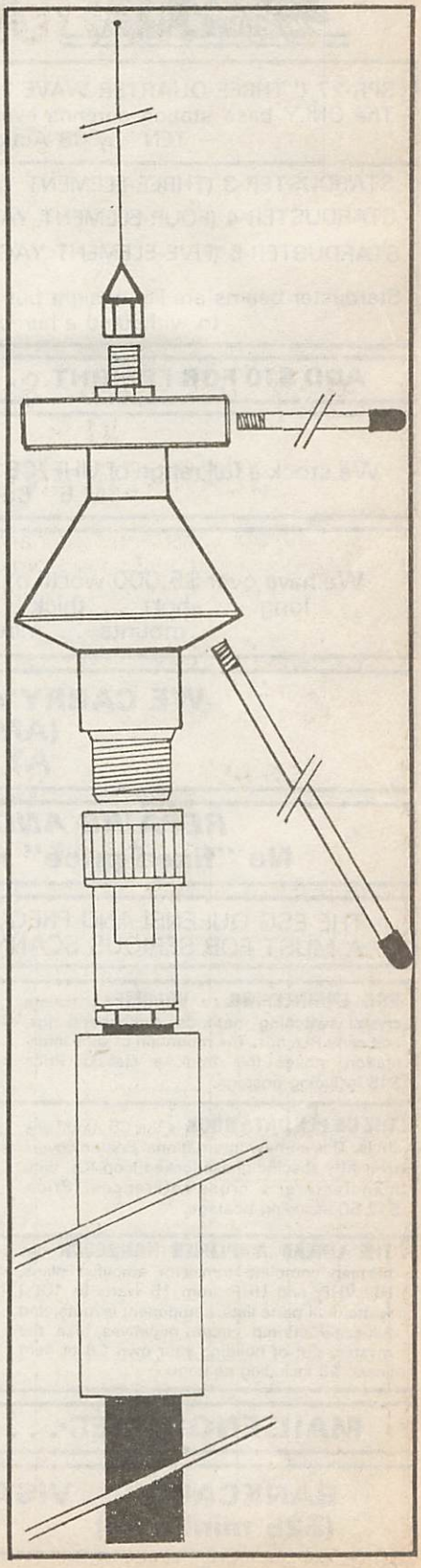
I wasn't able to compare its performance with that of the "original" Scantenna, but thanks to the indulgence of a wealthy friend, I was able to run a side-by-side comparison between the Scantenna-XLR and an exotic imported discone which cost him nearly $300 and a three-legged monstrosity with loading coils everywhere which cost him about the same amount.

Result? No noticeable difference between the three antennas.

The performance of the PRO-2004/Scantenna-XLR combination is nothing short of spectacular. VSWR on UHF-CB is under 1.2:1 and as I still haven't gotten around to buying a UHF base stick the Scantenna-XLR doubles as my UHF base antenna, with excellent results.

The guys at South Pacific Radio are on a real "Buy Australian" kick at the moment. When I told them I might be doing a Test Report for CB Action they insisted that I include the fact that the Scantenna-XLR is 100 per cent Australian designed and is manufactured from 100 per cent Australian materials and components. Good stuff, SPR! There should be more of it!

If you want top performance from your scanner, I reckon you can't go wrong with a Scantenna-XLR.



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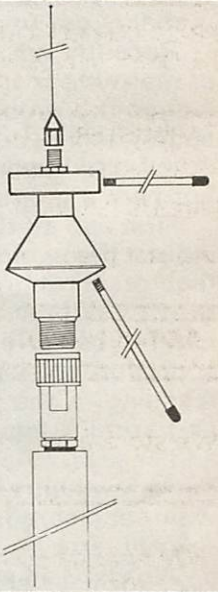

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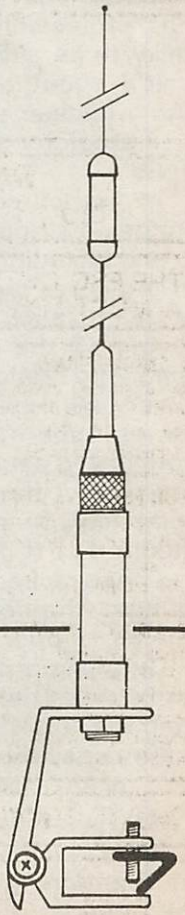

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AUSTRALIA'S CHEAPEST DISCONE

Sales of the SCANTENNA-XLR (by word-of-mouth recommendation so far . . . the first XLR ad is in this issue) have exceeded all expectations, but we're stuck with a few SCANTENNA-2's. Nothing wrong with them . . . it's just that everyone's buying the XLR. Our kids can't eat aluminium, so we're clearing the last few SCANTENNA-2's at the ridiculous price of $79 each plus $10 freight. (Last month they were $119 plus freight). First come, first served.
BANKCARD . . . VISA . . . MASTERCARD welcome by mail or phone

Queensland Scene

By ROD FEWSTER

I've been up on this soapbox before and I'll probably get up on it again.

Recently we've been blessed with a poultice of maritime rescues, and in practically every instance the problems were due to carelessness and/or negligence on the part of those in trouble.

If I cited every instance I'd run out of room, but here's a couple of gems.

First cab off the rank was a coot trying to row around the world solo in a jam tin or some similar feat of derring-do, who vomited because the trawler skipper who came to his rescue billed him for loss-of-earnings. (Once he was safe and sound on dry land he reckoned he didn't need rescuing in the first place. I'd have towed the ungrateful bugger back out to where I found him and cast off.) Apparently locals had warned this guy a few hours earlier not to put to sea until the weather cleared. They might as well have saved their breath.

We also had a sardine tin full of weekend bait-drowners who set off in rough seas and poxy weather, once again despite warnings from local, professional fishermen. These guys are lucky to be alive.

It's about time the government stepped in and whacked a hefty charge on people whose own stupidity or pig-headedness gets them into trouble.

In French-controlled waters a "MAYDAY" brings an all-out rescue effort . . . everything up to and including the French Navy . . . but, if your co-ordinates are off and they don't find you pretty damn quick your grandchildren will still be paying off the debt long after you're dead and gone. The French authorities take maritime safety very seriously, but they expect you to do the same. If you mess them about, you pay for the trouble you cause. (The Frogs also imprison anyone caught transmitting a false "MAYDAY" or firing flares for no good reason . . . something we should do.) If our illustrious jam tin solo rower had been picked up off New Caledonia he'd have thought the forty grand bill from the Aussie trawler skipper was just small change.

During maritime rescues the lives of every rescuer is at risk. If the weather is bad enough to keep the pros off the pond then anyone putting to sea against their advice should be prepared to fend for themselves . . . or drown.

★ ★ ★

After much prompting from Roger the Dodger I'm mentioning the fact that there is a repeater operating on 8/38 in the Emerald district.

This repeater is owned and maintained by the Highlands Repeater Association. (It's located near Luxland, about 12 km from Rubyvale, in case anyone wants to go up and pinch it.)

I recently spoke through it from Brisbane to Clermont, but I was cheating at the time. Say no more!!

If you're out that way, give Roger a call and tell him you read about it in CB Action.

★ ★ ★

There's been a lot of codswallop going on about the high price of CB repairs lately, and fix-it-on-the-kitchen-table "experts" are leaping out of the woodwork everywhere.

Here's my opinion . . .

CHEAP CB REPAIRS ARE LIKE CHEAP PARACHUTES!!

Take the risk if you want to.

★ ★ ★

Seems like every time you turn on the TV these days you see a "Buy Australian" or a "Hey, True Blue" ad.

I'm all for supporting Australian industry, but have any of you readers ever tried to manufacture anything in this country?

Even finding the right materials requires the services of Sherlock Holmes and getting them when you want them is almost impossible.

When you finally have all the raw materials sitting on your factory floor, unless you have the capability of doing ALL the cutting, grinding, machining, milling, drilling, tapping, threading, welding, polishing, plating, printing, packaging and everything else yourself, you're still caught with a leg up.

The Antenna Agencies' M-6 UHF antenna, for instance, or South Pacific Radio's Scantenna XLR discone.

I saw the excellent hand-made M-6 fold-down adaptor prototypes over three months ago, but the drama involved in getting this antenna from the drawing-board into production meant that they are only just appearing on dealers' shelves.

SPR's super-spoof Scantenna XLR prototypes have been around even longer, but finding someone capable of consistently machining the cones to the required standard of accuracy at a reasonable price has been nothing short of a nightmare. Again, the finished product is only just appearing on the scene.

It seems to me that too many Australians either don't want to work, haven't the skills to use the expensive machinery in their workshops,

are too slap-happy to do the job accurately, or price themselves right out of the marketplace.

My investigations have shown that, if you want accurate machining done, in many cases it would be cheaper to fly to Taiwan with a sample in your pocket and fly back with a couple of thousand finished items in your suitcase a few days later.

Fortunately, thanks to protective tariffs, it's still possible (with a lot of hard work and buggerizing about) to make a top-quality item with 100 percent Australian labour content and sell it for far less than its imported counterparts.

As I said, I'm all for supporting Australian manufacturers and I'll buy an Australian-made product for preference any time provided the quality and price are comparable, but if Australian manufacturers don't start supporting each other we'll all be on the bones of our arses in the near future.

★ ★ ★

DOC has been doing the rounds in Brisbane, with a number of out-of-banders, linear users, and amateur-rig-on-CB users receiving warnings over the past couple of months.

The latest approach is the "Official Warning" for first-time offenders rather than prosecution or confiscation of equipment.

Second-timers . . . watch out!!

★ ★ ★

Even though a Queenslander was the first operator in Australia to be prosecuted for harassment, a Sydney amateur has the dubious honour of being the first in Australia to lose his licence totally for this offence.

Some Old Goats have all the luck!!

★ ★ ★

The Big News this issue would have to be the "Channel 35 AM Call Channel" hoax.

Some prankster sent out a heap of letters, on official DOC letterhead and posted from Canberra, stating that Channel 35 would be officially designated as a second AM Call Channel as of midnight on 30 June.

Everyone fell for it . . . even me, for a while. (Some of the well-known Brisbane smart-arses reckon they knew it was a hoax right from the start, but in reality they were sucked in just like everybody else. They're just too fragile in the backbone department to admit it.)

I found out fairly early in the piece that it was a put-up job, but I carried on as if I believed it to be true right up until the very end and even threw in a few supporting red herrings of my own from time to time.

I had a bellyache from laughing so much some nights. The bleating went on for weeks, and the way some of the strompers were performing you'd have thought their wives and children were being taken away from them. It just goes to show what pathetic little wimps Good Buddies really are.

I get the feeling that someone very close to, if not actually inside, DOC in Canberra had something to do with it. (Some operators claimed to have been told by DOC Head Office that it was definitely not a hoax.).

In any case, it was well-planned, elaborate and expensively-produced. One of the best . . . at least equal to my "Channel 35 LSB Call Channel" hoax of a few months ago.

Whoever was behind it . . . good on you!!

I enjoyed it if nobody else did.

★ ★ ★

Here's a friendly one to Steve Griffin.

Steve, you popped a cap or two at the high price of "Frequency Registers" in the last Sydney Scene.

The only "Frequency Registers" I'm familiar with are the ones published by ESG in Adelaide.

Their Queensland edition contains over 250 pages in a solid ring-binder. No way you could duplicate this monster for less than $25.00 unless you had free access to the company photocopier and even then you'd need a poultice of spare time on your hands.

As for copyright . . . you're right when you say a bunch of numbers can't be copyrighted. What you're paying for is the time and effort put into correlating those numbers and setting them out in a useable format.

You're also paying for information and information, particularly information of a fairly hard-to-get nature, is expensive. (Not everyone has a microfiche reader.) If you think the price of frequency information is high you should try buying some of my specialised combat/weaponry/survival works-of-art.

I don't know what's available in the way of "Frequency Registers" in the Coat-hanger City, but Sydney's been known as the home of the Push and the Razor Gang since the days of the First Fleet.

If you can come up with a full Queensland listing, a la ESG, for four bucks, my cheque's in the mail.

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The enthusiastic short wave listener knows all too well the excellent performance of the NRD505 and NRD515 general coverage receivers from the JAPAN RADIO COMPANY.

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FEATURES:

- 40 Channel UHF CB
- Repeater offset
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- Illuminated channel selection switch for night operation
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- Big in performance
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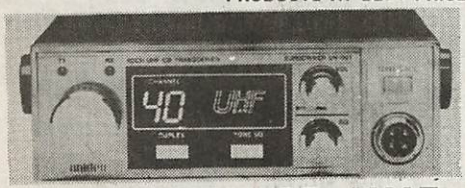

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OUT WEST

By DON STEWART

A letter from VCY694 Tom in Victoria just missed my last deadline, so it gives me something to start off with.

Remember me saying a while back that UHF contact direct from Victoria might be possible? Well Tom has done it.

Tom says that at 3.30 am (EST) on 9 Feb. 1987, he heard WCB998 David, of Kendenup West (North of Albany), chatting through Channel 1/31 Adelaide. David said he was changing to Channel 13 simplex, so Tom did the same, put in a breaker and Bingo! Direct contact.

After talking to David and his brother Phillip, WAV052, for a while, at a distance of about 2260 km, Tom tried channel 7/37 at Mount Barker and found himself talking to two very surprised people, WAW600 Vern and WCB659 Trevor in Busselton — that's a total distance of well over 2500 km and Tom has the QSL cards to prove it. He also spoke to WAM682 John at Albany via the 4/34 repeater at Naracoorte in SA at about the same time.

I must admit I did a bit of drooling when Tom described the gear he uses — nothing flash, just a Sawtron 990 connected to an array of four 17 element beams on a fifty foot mast. Sure makes my 320 and 9 dB stick look puny.

Tom is not a radio buff in the real sense — he runs a dairy farm near Mortlake in SW Victoria and the UHF is for farm communications — but, as he says about the contacts:

"It proves that, if you are about at the right time, almost nothing is beyond the UHF medium."

★ ★ ★

I also had a note from WAZ707 Colin in reply to my piece about Mango 2 Joni in the last issue. Colin said:

"I am writing this letter in reply to the article sent to you by Mango 2 Joni. I support 100 per cent what Joni and the members of both the clubs have done for the Appealathon, this year and years past.

"As you can see by my callsign, I am not one of the offending CBers.

"What I want to say is that for the rest of the year the two clubs you named as helping to raise the money seem to think they can, and do, tie up the call channel with their continued waffling and, when we ask them to pick a channel so that we can put out a call, we are told, 'We have picked a channel — THIS ONE'.

"Come on you Mangos and Mustangs, it's no good being good Samaritans one or two days a year, be good CBers all year round and pick a channel to do your waffling on, even if the call channel is clear.

"Keep up the good work for Appealathon but please Joni, speak to your members abut talking on the call channel and maybe you will get a lot more support next year.

"P.S. There are some of you on the call channel now as I sit writing this."

If true it sounds like a fair comment to me.

★ ★ ★

A chap who wants to be known only as 'Father Nigel', rang me and confessed to being the owner of the now silent channel 6 repeater mentioned last time.

He said the "repeater" was two Philips 620 sets, two mobile whips, a 'home brew' link up and a tape recording of 5/35 ident. Not much of a repeater by general standards, but it seems to have worked and it certainly 'put the cat among the pigeons' for a while.

Father Nigel said he has started another monitoring group (Another one!?) because of the infighting between CREST and ACRM. The new group is called WAVEMS, WA Volunteer Emergency Monitoring Service, and interested parties should write to PO Box 922 Cloverdale, 6105.

I would advise CREST and ACRM to get their act together because his plans include:

1. Taking over 5/35 and moving it to a high point above Kalamunda;
2. Setting up a 27 MHz emergency receiver "Remote Base" at the same site; and
3. Fighting for a new general repeater in Perth — possibly on channel 8. (And what about Gary's portable??)

Father Nigel left me with the impression that he is a real live wire and a bit of a stirrer, so the airwaves around Perth could hot up considerably in the next few months — provided of course that DOC doesn't short him out first.

★ ★ ★

An old mate of the airwaves, WCC330 Bertie of Tom Price, sent me a note the other day because there has been no skip to let us make contact the other way.

As well as going crook about the lack of skip, he said that one of his rare contacts had the longest callsign ever. On 31 January 1987 he contacted a chap named Dave, supposedly at Shark Island NSW, who gave the callsign — wait for it — 68-WF-109-52-YT110.

He's got to be joking.

★ ★ ★

Back to UHF repeaters. Channel 3/33 in Perth as no sooner back on air, as promised,than 2/32 Bunbury was pulled out.

The owner, WAW600 Vern, said it was out for x monthly service and he found that some new arts were required. He was, understandably, a bit oset at having to pay out all the time to maintain e repeater as a public facility while only a handful users were prepared to donate toward maintaing it and, at that time, the kitty was empty.

A group of users decided it was time to sort the atter out and called an open meeting, which Vern tended, in Bunbury on Friday, 10 July.

The meeting was attended by about thirty eople from as far out as Busselton, Collie and landurah and my old sparring partner, WEM005 hil, even came all the way from Perth to do a great b as scribe for the meeting.

The outcome was the formation of the Bunbury nd Districts UHF Repeater Group. (It was pointed ut that this makes us the BAD UHF Repeater roup, but we hope to belie the name.)

Vern will remain Owner, Licence Holder and Serceman, but the group will become virtual lessees it, with responsibility for the general running of payment of all costs and, in the long term, looking to purchase the repeater before Vern retires in a w years time. There are a few problems there, ut they will be handled as they come up.

Nobody was prepared to nominate as president the new group, so the chairman of the meeting, AX897 Max, agreed to accept the post in the terim. Max insists that interim means "short rm" and he will be looking for somebody to take ver as soon as another meeting can be arranged y the elected steering committee.

The group set an annual fee of $10 for private sers and $50 for businesses and most of those ttending signed up on the spot. The business wners who were present said they were quite appy with that and would probably make further onations if everything worked out as planned.

The groups should have a post office box by the me you read this and the repeater should be up for three month trial run, so you should be able to find ut what it is but, if you can't, you can write to the ecretary, WCE632 Chris, C/o Post Office, Eaton, 230.

The group does not plan the use of special allsigns or the pettiness of only talking to other embers because this could cause further probms, but I hope that all regular users of the repeatr will be fair minded and see the sense in joining p to keep it working — the only alternative is lence.

★ ★ ★

By the time you get to read this I will have been Geraldton for a month and be back home again, o if you Geraldton people have done anything in he past month to attract my attention you can look orward to a serve next time around — sneaky, ren't I?

I am behind the deadline again, so that's all you et for this time. Dont' forget the addres — PO Box 1, Bunbury, 6230.

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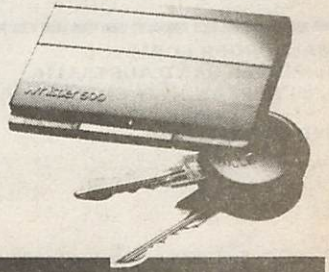

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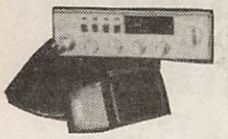

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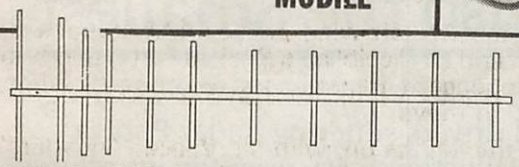

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(see review this issue)

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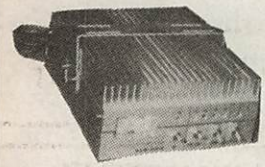

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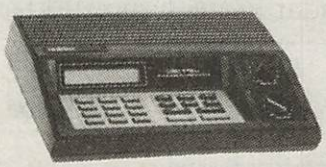

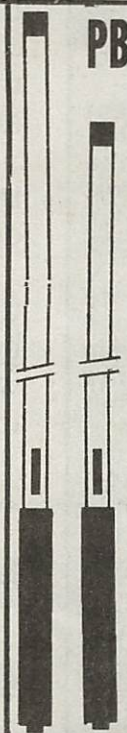

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In like Flynn

Young Flynn has been working harder than a dog burying a bone in a marble floor of late, and to reward him, the editor has given him his own page.

This is his first offering, and by the looks of things there isn't much that will remain sacred . . .

Anarchy is as natural to Italians as bare boobs and block-out is to Bondi Beach.

If you've ever been to Italy, or read about the experiences of anyone who has, then you know how Italians drive — in two speeds 'Stop' and 'get-outta-my-way'. If there's too much traffic on the roads, then the footpath is the next best thing. Unless someone has parked in the middle of it.

And Italians vote like they drive like they do everything else — with a mad passion. Who else could elect a hard core porn star, Ilona Staller (better known as 'Cicciolina', or little fleshy one) as a member of parliament, on the basis of her Radical Party policies of more porn, less censorship and a promise to bare her bosom in public at every opportunnity?

Well, let me tell you when it comes to the airwaves, Italians are at least consistent.

Take CB radio, for instance. In the middle of Europe, a tightly-organised and mostly obedient continent where 22 channels (or thereabouts) FM applies to most countries, Italy is not so much out of step as not even in the same parade.

The more wordly CBers amongst us know this already. To begin with, Italian CBers have no restrictions on power levels. Nor has the government bothered to specify which modes can be used, so the Italians use them all — AM, FM, SSB, radio teletype, and a few that the rest of us have probably yet to discover.

This is obviously a headache if you are trying to develop a bandplan. So you solve this by not allocating a band. Okay, there's a nominal 23 channel rule, which is supposed to keep the rest of Europe from grumbling too much.

But when the whole spectrum from 26-28 MHz seems to be one massive calling channel, and the gear to match is openly available from the shops, it's all a bit blatant.

In the bizarre world of Italian communications, not even radio or TV channels are allocated. Except for those used by the government RAI network (similar to the ABC), the use of any frequency is determined more by squatters' rights. Find a spot, fire up the transmitter, and away you go.

The latest battle for control of the Italian airwaves began in July. The government had arranged a frequency-swap with Vatican City, the independent city-state of the Church in the middle of Rome.

The Vatican should have come out ahead. It was trading three FM broadcast channels for four. Italy cheated — the four frequencies were already being used, by two left-wing political FM stations (the Red Wave, and La Cicciolina's Radical Party) and two smaller independent transmitters — none of whom were willing to move.

So the fight is on, with the Vatican 'invaders' vainly attempting to turn the other cheek (or the other stereo carrier) to the Radicals and Reds. Now and again their cup runneth over, and Vatican Radio lets forth with a salvo of high-power easy-listening music.

Like any battle, each side is ready for the other to let down their guard. When the needle stuck in the record during a Vatican music session, the Radicals launched an attack on the govenment and industrial interference with the agricultural land-base of northern Italy.

When the Radicals left the station unmanned during an afternoon nap, Vatican Radio threw in a quick news broadcast and a Montovani album.

So far, no-one has given in. And the Vatican can't go back to their former frequencies, either — hours after the changeover, word had spread of the new FM channels 'up for grabs', and some 200 private stations had moved into two of them.

★ ★ ★

UHF CB may be crowded at times, but I don't think it

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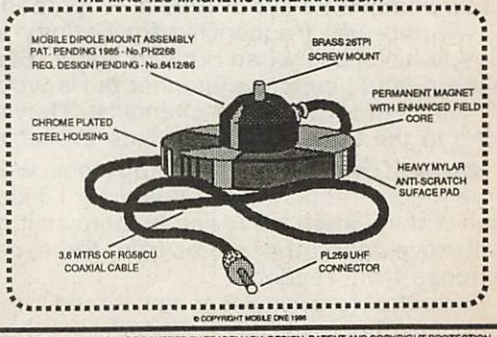

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will ever get quite that bad!

In fact, although somewhat chocka in the cities, once outside the bustle UHF could just as well stand for 'Users Hard to Find'. Which may explain why it is easy for a country commercial operator on 477 MHz to end up thinking they've right of ownership to 'their' channel.

And it follows that, being **their** channel, no-one else can use it. So it must be as private as people assume any two-way to be (people who haven't heard of scanners, that is).

This was brought home during a recent trip to western NSW. The UHF CB was happily scanning through the channels, on the outskirts of a town, when I caught part of a strange conversation.

"Mobile three to base'.

"Go ahead three".

"I've hidden the key, it is next to the water bubbler south of the war monument in the park, over".

"Thanks, Bob, I'll relay that in a few minutes. Over and out".

Hmmm, thinks I, curious. Then, the music on the local AM broadcast station ends, and the announcer tells listeners to standby for their clues to find one of the golden keys in some competition.

Well, had I been more materialistic, I would have headed straight for the water bubbler south of the war monument in the local park, to achieve temporary fame, a few nice goodies, and the chance to win even nicer goodies.

As it was, I just drove through the town, noting how the AM call channel had erupted with mobiles telling one another "Hey dingo, the key's at the park" and the like. By the time I drove by the park in question, it was getting as crowded as the Cross during shore leave.

I pulled the Fiat up next to a group of nice young things, and decided to give them a club. 'You see that bubbler over there? Try that. Trust me!

The last thing I heard as I drove out of town — it came over the same radio station — was the news that some young thing and her girlfriend had found the key in almost record time.

Some days you really feel good.

All of which only serves to highlight the fact that the media, as always, rely on two-way radio for an awful lot. On-the-spot news, traffic and surf reports, and those wonderful competitions — most come through the two-way radio.

I've compiled a list of media — primarily radio and TV — two-way frequencies for Sydney and parts of NSW, which I use when out and about. But there must be more, and I suppose scanner buffs would be aware of their own local media channels. They can also be found in the various scanner lists available.

Maybe if we got our acts together, we could print some media frequencies in this mag. I'll kick it off next issue with my own NSW list, as bare as it may be. And we'll move on to other states from there, depending on response from readers.

One set of frequencies which would rarely be boring would be those of the Racecam — that innovative camera-in-a-car/bike/boat/Adidas jogger shoe, which Sydney's TV Ch. 7 developed. Racecam will again be a star attraction during coverage of this year's James Hardie 1000 at Bathurst. If you are heading into Bathurst for the race — to be held on Sunday October 4th — you can listen first-hand to the Racecam commentary on 484.8 MHz.

Other frequencies for the Bathurst visitor include those used by Ch. 7 for their race coverage — camera crews, reports, helicopter and the broadcast booth. The callsign is VH2ATN, and the frequencies — 469.975, 470.125, 470.725, 472.8 and 473.375 MHz. The Bathurst police are on 468.475 MHz, also VHF 83.76 and 83.88 MHz.

Of course, those are just a few of the interesting things a scanner can uncover. If you live near a McDonalds drive-through 'restaurant' (and I use the term loosely), you'll find their in-car take-away service uses 35.02 MHz.

And for Sydney-siders, the highly-visible Bond airship can be heard on 126.4 MHz (in-flight), 123.6 (Bankstown tower, for departures/arrival) and 119.9 MHz (Bankstown ground, pre-flight and routine duties).

A final one came to me from Bob Bell, who writes an airband monitoring column for 'Australian Aviation' magazine.

A NZ airband buff was listening to the recorded ATIS (Air Terminal Information Service) for Auckland International Airport. The report commenced with the usual details — wind speed and direction, visibility, cloud cover, temperature . . . then ended with 'pilots and controllers cocktail evening tonight at the Commercial Travellers' Club, Remuera Auckland, commencing 1930'!

I suppose it pays to advertise.

'Till next time — keep the faith!

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BANKCARD VISA

SYDNEY SCENE

BY STEVE GRIFFIN

Everything got off to a great start at the Sydney Radio field day that was held at Narrabeen on 14 June.

Quite a number of familiar faces were present on the day (David Flynn, Sam Voron, Robert Walker, just to mention a few) and the overall attendance was into the few-hundred mark. There were demonstrations by the Sydney Radio Club, the Lima Alpha Radio Club, Sam Voron's Amateur Radio display, and Mr Walker's own RTTY display.

There was a mass of radios for sale but most seemed to belong to Sam Voron. There were radios of all sizes and shapes and many of them were brands that even the importers had forgotten about.

To top off the sales, David Smith, owner of the Sydney CB Radio Centre, where the event was held, had quite a good range of the latest models on display in his shop, and I believe a number of CBs and accessories were sold at bargain prices.

A Philips FM620 was raffled — congratulations to J. Turner on his windfall. The proceeds were donated to the NSW Spastic Centre.

Overall there were very few problems on the day but I would have loved to be an on-duty Radio Inspector. Many of the old familiar wombat-type voices were present and even Sydney's most hated music man was there. Oh well, some have already been caught and most are still paying their dues.

Robert Walker also had his share of problems when he decided to announce that for a $10 donation he would check and adjust the TX output power and frequencies on any radio. At the time a few were interested in this, but after the first or second radio his power supply decided to give up and, unfortunately, he had no spare.

A video of the day was made by an amateur photographer and I'm told it may be available for the various clubs to promote any future events of a similar nature. Let's hope we see more of them. By the way . . . why weren't you there???

★ ★ ★

I received a letter from a man who is a little cheesed off with the service from a Sydney retailer. He goes on to say that the problem started when he purchased a base microphone for his Uniden Washington on 13 June. Apparently the dealer wired this mic with a four-pin plug instead of a five pin. After the gentleman got home and realised that an error had been made he telephoned the store and was told 'no problem, bring it in and we'll change it over'. He expected the changeover would only take 10 minutes, so he decided to do a bit of shopping and pick it up when he came back. That's when the fun began.

The dealer said that it wasn't finished and that he would deliver it to the customer as soon as it was ready. It was 26 June when the customer returned to the store to have the plug changed, and after many phone calls and broken promises, the customer's letter was written and mailed to me on 6 July, and at that stage the mic still hadn't been returned. This mic cost over $80 and many frustrating hours on the phone. He then found out that he could have bought the same mic from another dealer for $69 and had absolutely nothing else to do except plug it in and use it!

★ ★ ★

Still on the subject of retailers, a little message to all the Canberra readers . . . I don't believe the prices you are being charged for CBs down there. I do a lot of scouting around and visit dealers in all parts of the continent, so I have come across some expensive radios, but really! I was literally shocked when one of the bigger dealers in the ACT had the nerve to tell me that was the price people were prepared to pay. What crap!!

A second-hand Super Panther Mk1, in fair condition but without the mounting bracket and screws, was selling for $269. Do you believe it???

What about these dealers who offer a free antenna base and lead included in the price of the radio. Nine times out of ten it would work out cheaper to buy these things separately. Funny system. huh!

★ ★ ★

Another cheerio to the 49ers who actually did get a little group together after all, and the membership list is starting to grow rapidly. The group already has members as far away as South Australia and Tasmania. They have QSL cards in the making and they are always looking for a decent chat. As I said once before . . . If you can find them, drop in and say "g'day", they would love to hear from you.

★ ★ ★

Finding someone with a design for a QSL card is harder than trying to win lotto. A few years ago QSL cards were all the rage. Everyone who operated SSB seriously wanted to get them made up with their own design, and get them sent out as soon as possible. Making an impression was the "in" thing, so having an unusual card was first on the list. Wonder if that will become popular again???

Keep those letters coming — the address is: PO Box 40, Gladesville, NSW, 2111.

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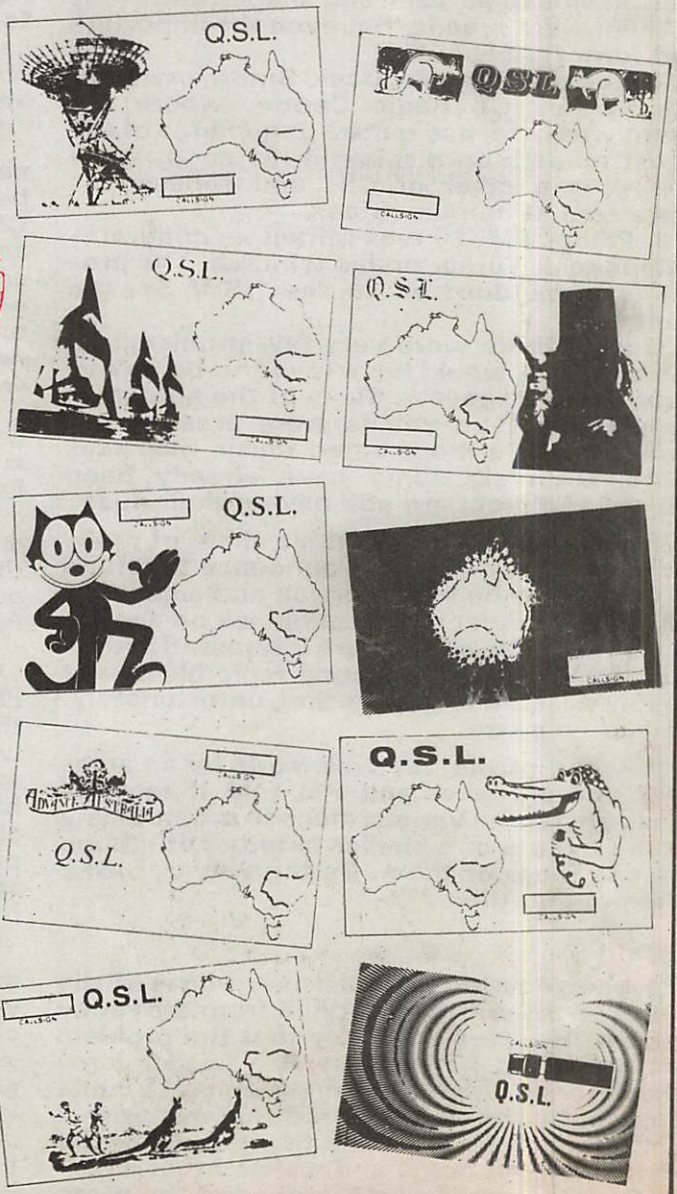

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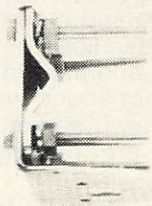

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RIG REVIEW

ELECTROPHONE TX-840 AM/SSB MOBLE

The Electrophone TX840 has only recently replaced the much-loved TX565 as the top-shelf mobile AM/SSB rig from Standard Communications.

Standard are clearly putting a lot of faith in the new TX840 — and enticing support by marketing the rig well below the price of the TX565. The fact is they are two very different radios. With the cost of new gear having leapt through the roof, this 'Electrophone on a budget' seems attractive indeed.

The TX840 might not be a "Flash Harry" in the looks department, but it is pleasant on the eye. Colouring is a brushed champagne gold — at least, that's what Electrophone used to call it a few years ago. The general style is mirrored in the UHF mobile and 27 MHz marine transceivers.

You can see the control layout easily enough from the photos — straight forward, neither surprises nor criticisms. Front-mounted mike at the left — thankfully this is more and more common on CB rigs today — with pots along the bottom and switches at the top.

Volume, squelch, mode selector and clarifier make up the basic complement of controls necessary for sideband operation — nothing to get you confused when driving, which rates highly amongst many mobile users.

At the far right is the channel selector, finished in Electrophone's regular practice by marking the perimeter of the dial with the number of every fifth channel, and notches for the rest.

The upper half of the TX840 is divided into two sections. The first houses the push-buttons for PA/CB, NB/ANL, LO/DX (local/distant) and a little innovative channel 8 reset.

Above each button are red LEDs to indicate which function is activated. The channel 8 button, bright red in colour compared to the dark grey of the other switches, blanks the LED channel readout and puts you straight onto the highway channel. A red LED above this switch, too, comes on in the ch. 8 reset mode.

There is also a display area for the various LEDs used on the TX840— tx (transmit), rx (receive) and channel display. Four bar LEDs act as a signal meter.

On the rear panel are sockets for an extension speaker and PA horn. The antenna connector and power cord are mounted on 'pigtails' or flying leads — hard-wired straight from the back of the rig, but terminated in the appropriate plugs after a few inches of cable.

That's the TX840 out of the box. In operation, you notice that the controls are very smooth, and possessed of an easy movement. There is a slight recess of the knobs, so that the base sits within the front panel, and only the fluted section extends. I have always preferred fluted knobs — they are easier to fumble for and grip than plain round ones, and you can see at a glance just where the control is set.

Likewise, the push buttons have a positive action, and the whole fascia panel was well spaced and presented no headaches.

One flaw in the design was the placement of the channel display LEDs. These are set back from the panel, in fact so far back that unless you are reading the display head on, it is illegible. You lose the left vertical segments (a and b segs, if you want to get technical) of the single number LED, and the top bar of both. This may not sound worth harping about, but try it sometime, and imagine you are reading it mobile.

As far as the LED 5/RF meter is concerned, there will always be CBers who are only satisfied by a moving needle analogue device, but I'm not amongst their number.

That said, it was curious to note that Electrophone's much-heralded surface-mount technique was absent from the TX840. It is far superior to the regular method of assembling equipment in terms of reliability and ability to withstand rugged treatment. It is also very expensive, and undoubtedly the decision not to employ surface-mounting in the TX840 has contributed a great deal to bringing the cost back down to more affordable levels.

Back to the meter briefly, to mention that Electrophone have incorporated a modulation indicator within the signal meter. In transmit, the first three LEDs come alive to indicate power output, and the fourth flickers with modulation. A neat touch.

The construction of the TX840 was good, and although the case felt very lightweight, the fit was clean.

The microphone is another change from that of the earlier Electrophones. It is totally bog standard, and takes you back many years in design. It feels okay in the hand, the PTT works, but all in all it is boring and non-descript.

Not so plain is the PA function, which enables the transceiver's volume control to drive the level of a public address horn in the same way it adjusts the output of the internal or external speaker. This isn't something you get with every CB radio, although I can't figure out why not — it makes a lot of sense.

One curious observation appears on the box of the TX840 — 'last channel memory', it proclaims.

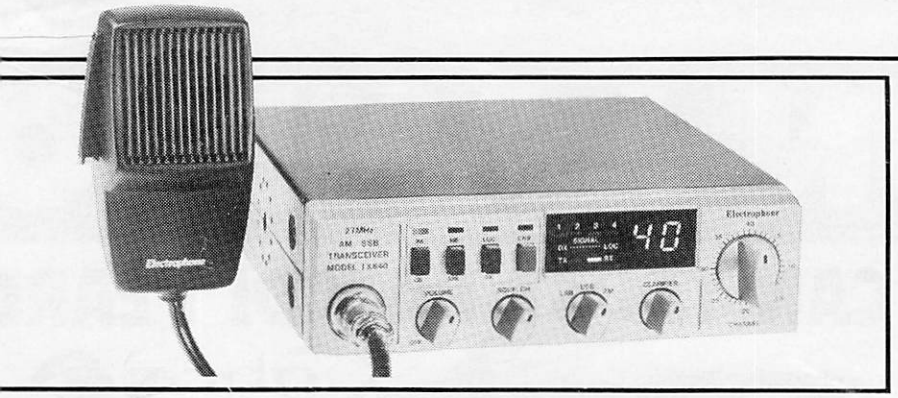
All well and good on a rig with electronic channel charging — some reset themselves to ch. 9 or ch. 11 once turned off, and only a few come back to life on the channel you left.

But a rig with a rotary dial? Of course it stays on the channel you last selected, unless you've played roulette with the knob when the power was off. The same with the ch. 8 reset — unless you did a 'pick and flick' in the meantime, you'll naturally end up on the same channel you were to begin with.

Don't get me wrong, I respect a bit of well-worded and thought-out hype — but if you can claim a 'last channel memory', we may as well boast about the glow-in-the-dark LEDs or any other obvious 'feature'.

The handbook for the TX840 is very good. You've got a quick and simple explanation of the rig, some information on mobile noise interference and even a channel useage chart with the AM/SSB territories marked. I cannot imagine anyone having trouble understanding the manual.

As we said at the start, the



TX840 is not a TX565. But at the much more realistic price, it will be within the reach of every potential sidebander, and could in fact cut up some of the mid-range SSB competition which have never had to face the Electrophone challenge before. Our thanks to Captain Communications of Sydney for supplying the TX840 for review.

TECH REPORT

The first comment about the TX840 is that the metal covers are very thin. Not that you must have super strong covers — you don't buy a CB radio to put in the middle of the floor and stand on it. But you have to judge a radio by its competition, and even the TX565 was much stronger. But these are two very different radios.

The PLL used is a 9109B and for up-and-coming pirates, bad luck fellows — this rig has not been designed with you in mind. The pots are also unlabelled, which should prevent a bit of fiddling, but of course a technician would have the diagrams to work from.

The controls are good — a front-mounted mike is pretty essential because of the Japanese "lunch-boxes" they are building these days, and this fits the bill and the lunch boxes pretty well.

The LED bar-graph — now these are okay! They don't break down, they don't fall to pieces, they don't have a needle which sticks half way — all the dramas you have with analogue meters on the average 27 megs set if you give it a hard time.

The front panel is now a moulded plastic section with a circuit board mounted behind it — the 565 front panel was fixed to a steel frame with the pots wired direct to the board. Here, all the controls are soldered into the panel, and a secondary board soldered directly to the main board.

Internally, it is reasonably tidy, even though there are a lot of wire jumpers on the circuit board. Components are nothing fancy, so they are available anywhere, and aren't going to vanish as soon as they stop making the radio.

The mounting of components is by the standard method, and not surface mounting, which the TX565 featured.

Remember, this is not a 565 — either you get a TX565 or a TX840. The 840 doesn't have anywhere near the cost of the 565, which is a radio that you won't see again. It's a bit like a showroom '57 Chevy — it is never going to come back.

The low cost has been achieved in many ways, including the decision not to use surface mounting, and it seems that the fibreglass used in the board is of a lower grade than the Japanese-built TX565.

Circuit-wise, the TX840 is laid out well but it would be nice for Standard Communications to keep a small quantity of 565s coming in, for the top end of the 27 MHz market — the same as Sawtron covers on UHF.

The local/DX switch I am not keen on — give me an RF again anytime. You can have a very strong signal go from three lights to nothing when you go 'local'. This may be needed, but there is nothing in between — you can only choose between having the RF set all the way up (DX) or 75% back (LOC). But you can't wind it up just to bring out the background noise and apply enough squelch so it doesn't trigger on minor noise variations.

Flying leads for the antenna and power connections are on all the Electrophones now, and they also share the same case and chassis work.

Electrophone have put in a reverse polarity diode, and have also used a high-capacity zener diode which will attempt to look after an accidental hook-up to 24 volts DC as well. They've run the DC in through chokes on the positive and negative legs, and then to the zener. The theory behind this is that they need something in series with the zener to attempt to limit current to a level the zener can handle, but still be able to blow the fuse as rated.

Earlier rig designs went for a straight-out diode directly across the supply line. If you connected 24 volts to that type of rig, it served you right.

Of course, with a simple reverse polarity, the diode blew and protected the rest of the radio. But the first reaction of your average CBer is to use a bigger fuse, say 10 amps. If you fit a 10A fuse to the TX840 you are going to get a stuffed choke, fry the zener, and an open-circuit radio at the expense of these components.

As a serviceman, I haven't seen that many 24V destruction jobs, but I have seen a fair share of reverse polarities. I'd be happier to see a diode directly across the supply, even if there was a second diode directly across it.

On the bench, the receiver sensitivity was excellent, below 0.3 uV sideband at 12 dB SINAD.

The squelch threshold at the 10 dB level was just under 0.3 uV, very sensitive indeed.

Transmit output was 3.58 watts AM, 13W SSB, and modulation was pretty well balanced.

The PA speaker has an adjustable volume, driven by the volume control — something a lot of radios, both CB and marine, don't have. In those cases the level is taken directly from the audio output transformer, so the volume is flat out. Nice work, gentlemen. Let's see this more often, on the marine rigs as well as CB radios.

I'd like to see sockets at the back of the case — flying leads do save some room, but if you connect an extension speaker or a PA, you lose most of what you've gained.

The only things I would criticise on the TX840 would be the thin metal case, and the quality of the mike — a cheap plastic device which will probably have the owner running back to the supplier before the warranty expires. Again, the microphone on the TX565 was very good quality, but here we have a budget radio.

— Allan Kallas

ON LAND O

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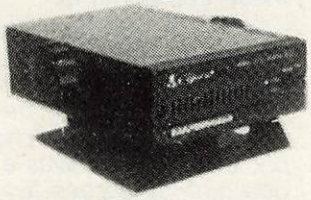

Trapshooter 2100 — affordable peace of mind. This economy model can be mounted on dashboard or visor, monitors both X and K radar bands and features city/highway sensitivity mode, to minimise false alarms.

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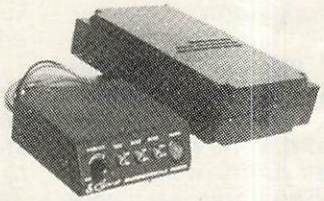

Cobra CB radios are back, too — with two miniature AM models and a pair of sideband mobiles that really pack a punch. *''Cobra is back with a vengeance''* said CB ACTION *''And Dynascan just doesn't put its name on anything which isn't up to scratch.''*

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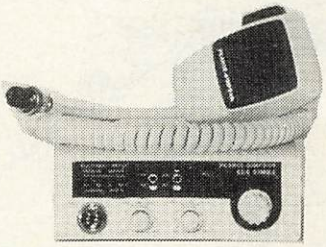

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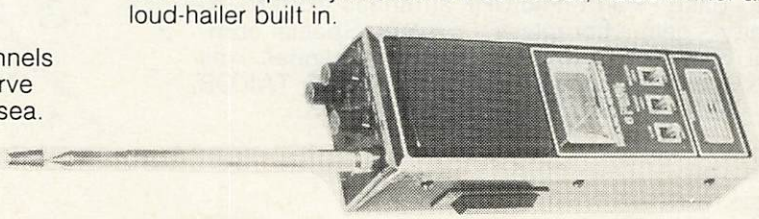

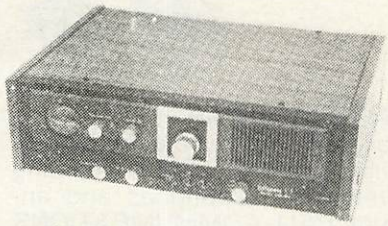

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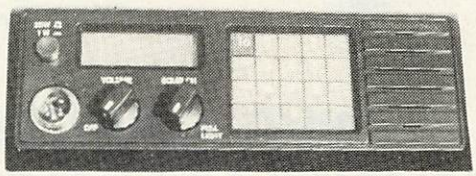

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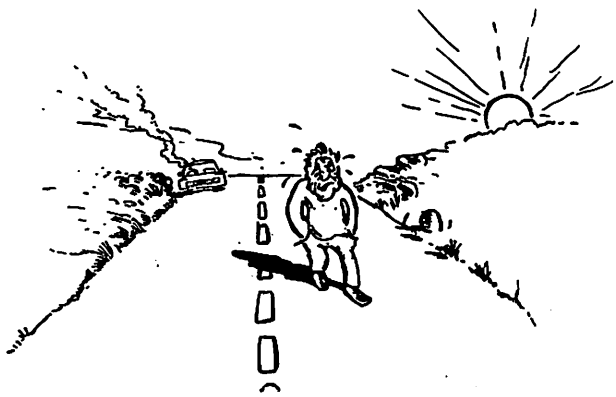

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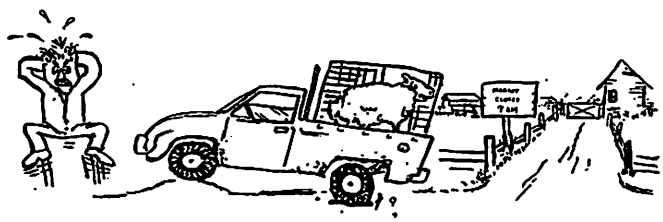

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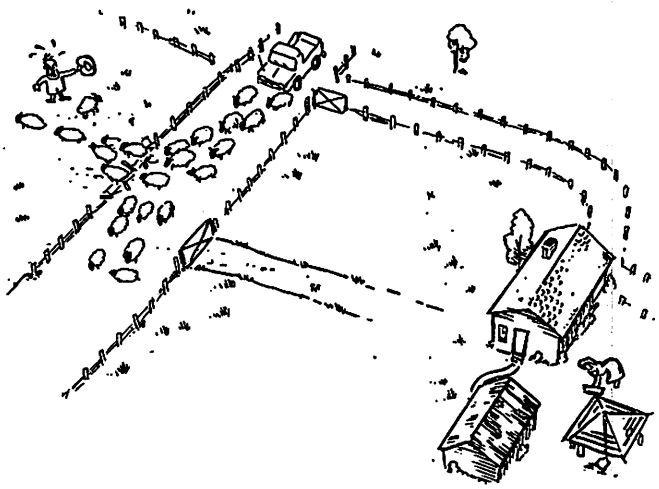

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RIG REVIEW

ROYCE AUS-100 UHF MOBILE

The new Royce is a middle of the range mobile UHF rig, which has been graced with a few additional features which Hatadi claims have proven popular with UHF users over the past few years.

With the addition of the AUS-100 to their range, Hatadi claim that now they cover the full range of UHF radios from portable through to mobile. Their Pearce-Simpson Leopard covers the budget market, and the Royce TS-133 the top end of the scale, with this new rig positioned in the middle.

The AUS-100 has, along with an in-built duplex (repeater) access and optional selcall/CTSS, an instant channel 11 reset button which proved popular on the earlier Leopard UHF CBs.

There is also a dimmer function, which lessens the intensity of the LED display for easier night driving.

LEDs are used to indicate RX/TX, channel readout (red), channel 11 select, and signal strength/power output.

The front panel is finished in black, with chromed knobs and trimming. The microphone connector is mounted on the right hand side of this panel. To keep selcall installation costs at a minimum, the AUS-100 features a plug in selcall arrangement, and the extra facility for CTSS (continuous tone coded squelch system). When this feature is added to a mobile or base station, CTSS is transmitted continuously, along with the speech, using one of the 38 standard tones within the range of 67.00 to 250.3 Hz whenever the PTT (push to talk) button on the microphone is depressed. The CTSS tones are not audible to other users of the channel. CTSS is most commonly used to assign separate tones to each user group sharing a common radio frequency.

The loudspeaker on the AUS-100 is muted until it receives its own "user group" tone, therefore eliminating the conversations of other channel users. This is known as "quiet base" and "quiet mobile" operation.

The rear panel of the rig incorporates an external speaker jack, power connector, and SO239 antenna connector. The front mounted microphone is of good size and construction, and the connector is where it should be — on the right hand side.

The mounting hardware is quite robust, with a slotted mounting bracket for easy installation.

Overall, the AUS-100 presents a strong attractive design, and should compete well with the others in the marketplace.

TECH REPORT.

My initial impressions of the Royce AUS-100 were of a cleanly designed front panel, and the good fit of the outer cases. These points showed logical thinking, and care in the initial design of the unit.

The front panel layout leaves plenty of space between the controls, as well as the controls themselves being large enough to allow operation by those endowed with large hands. One omission from the control line-up is an indicator for "duplex" operation, as there could be a tendency for operators to engage the duplex function and forget about it, as the short travel buttons do not give a positive visual indication of the button status.

Moving to the interior of the unit, we find a layout which could be best described as a derivative of the Uniden Sundowner chassis, refined in the receiver IF and discriminator circuits. There are major differences between the boards in actual layout, but the AUS-100 has obviously been constructed along the same train of thought.

The quality of the board itself is excellent, incorporating a down to earth design, which makes for a reliable unit with no nasty surprises for the owner — or the technician. The components have been selected from freely available parts, so there will be no trouble in servicing the unit should this become necessary.

Specification-wise, the unit lived up to my expectations for a unit in this price range. Transmit power straight from the box was measured at 4.45 watts at 13.8 volts. The receiver sensitivity measured in at 0.25uV for 12 dB SINAD. All general specifications were in line with those quoted in the handbook, or better.

Basically, the Royce AUS-100 represents good value for money and promises to be a unit which may well stay on the market for some time to come.

ALLAN KELLAS
Senior Technician
Captain Communications

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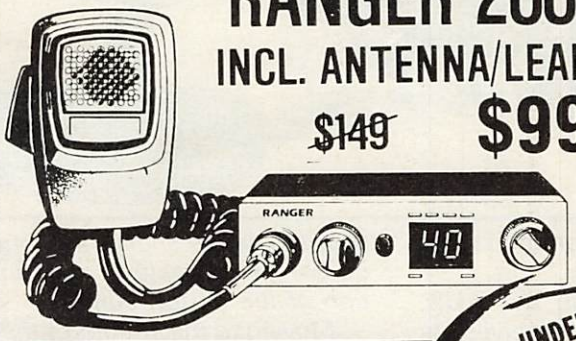

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IS THERE INTELLIGENT LIFE ABOVE CHANNEL 40?

by Rod Fewster

Old Sol is once again providing wenty-seven meg "skip" on a fair- regular basis, and incoming DX alls from interstate and overseas tations are on the increase.

Full-house modified CBs, practically worthless and almost impossible to sell a couple of years ago, re once again in big demand.

Avid DXers are dusting the cobvebs off the amateur transceivers nd multi-channel rigs they hid under their beds years ago and are ring them up on the "high hannels".

Longtime CB ACTION readers ay recall that back in the days of ighteen channels (when the RIs ept the "Who's Who of The Electomagnetic Spectrum" a closely-uarded secret) I suggested that OC publish a list of "no-no" equencies.

I knew that a large number of equencies above Channel 18 had een allocated for government and uasi-government use, some of hem possibly for fairly serious purposes, although I couldn't (and still an't) see why anyone with more han a single-digit IQ would rely on wenty-seven megs for important ommunications.

Most of the Bad Buddies were ware, and quickly made newcomrs to the out-of-band scene ware, that operation above 7.800 MHz could cause problems ith boaties using 27 MHz toy ireless, and "Channel 80" was he generally-accepted upper limit.

My feeling was that responsible ut-of-banders would steer clear of located frequencies if they were ade known. The fact that very ew pirates operated above 7.800 MHz indicated that most of hem had at least some sort of a sponsible attitude towards other sers of the spectrum, and anyay, no-one but an absolute cockead would deliberately stuff up ommunications on a frequency hich was allocated to some rganisation with enough clout to ocus the wrath of the dreaded RIs his direction.

DOC felt that publishing such a st could be construed as giving cit approval for pirates to operate n the frequencies which weren't sted. DOC pointed out that all frequencies apart from those designated as CBRS channels were aboo, not just the ones used by ther services, and suggested that back off and leave the subject one.

Although some misguided souls thought I was actively promoting spectrum anarchy, most RIs realisd that my suggestion was aimed at creating some semblance of order out of the chaos which ruled the "high channels". Unfortunately, frequency allocation information was sacred in the days before AMFAR, and The Department expected RIs to keep such information secret until at least four of their fingernails had been torn out. Bad Buddies continued to chase DX on any frequency they felt like using, blissfully unaware that they were buggering up communications across the continent, until the "skip" faded away and took most of them with it.

Improving propagation has roused many of the old out-of-banders from hibernation, and is infecting newcomers with DX fever and the urge to "find a quiet channel".

The Kraken Wakes!!

This time around, thanks to AMFAR being available on microfiche (not to be confused with the microfish which Our Beloved Editor Peter Smith invariably catches while emulating Captain Ahab at the mouth of the Yarra), I can publish everything you need to know about "who's doing what and with whom and who's paying" on the Naughty Forty, and these days the RIs can pass on a fair bit of info without fear of being castrated or worse under the provisions of the Official Secrets Act.

One Brisbane RI recalling my previous attempt to rip aside the shrouds of mystery surrounding twenty-seven megs for CB ACTION readers (and showing a burst of initiative which a few years ago would have been smothered by rules and regulations and red tape and various other assorted forms of restrictive bureaucratic bullshit) provided me with the list of allocated frequencies between 27.405 MHz and 27.800 MHz which accompanies this article.

Thirty-four frequencies in the Naughty Forty are allocated for use by other licensees Australia-wide. Most of these are low-powered stations . . . predominantly AM . . . and their communications can be totally massacred by signals from a stromped-up CB, let alone 200W-plus signals from the Kenwood/Yaesu/Icom/linear amp brigade.

Note that 27.445 MHz,the "New Caledonian Call Channel", is listed, as is the original "International Call Channel", 27.545 MHz. (The clods who reckon 35 LSB is the "International Call Channel" are just Good Buddies who should be euthanased at the earliest opportunity for the good of the rest of the CB community.)

27.645 MHz, currently the popular "International Call Channel", doesn't appear on the list, but 27.640 MHz does. Fifty-one stations hold licences to operate on this frequency . . . flea-powered stations which have to compete

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ICOM

Henderson Merrick DiStefano / IC 465

with all the splatter from Big Gun DXers a few kHz away.

Some of the organisations authorised to use the Naughty Forty are, by their very nature, worth keeping well away from. (You'd be a mug to try DXing on frequencies which have been allocated for use by the Fuzz, wouldn't you?) Licensees include Department of Defence, Department of Aviation, Department of Harbours and Marine, Department of Education, Police, Weather Bureau, Limited Coast Stations, State Emergency Service, experimental stations, paging services, and all sorts of other stuff.

The Radio Inspector who provided me with info for this article told me that he recently warned a couple of Brisbane out-of-banders for using 27.885 USB, after receiving complaints from Air-Sea Rescue and Coast Guard stations about interference on 27.880 MHz. These operators told the RI that they always used 27.885 USB because they thought (mistakenly) that only lower-sideband or AM transmissions would interfere with operations on 27.880 MHz. Obviously these guys were consciously attempting to avoid causing interference to other users.

It's no secret that I regard dedicated Good Buddies as out-and-out cockheads but I feel that most other CB operators, out-of-banders included, have a certain degree of social responsibility. I'm sure that no decent operator would continue to transmit after being informed that he was interfering with communications between a helicopter and ground parties searching for a missing bushwalker, for example. Unfortunately these and similar legal users of flea-powered transceivers on the Naughty Forty are seldom able to contact the offending stations, as they're usually thousands of miles away on the other side of the continent.

There are several gaps in the allocations, one of no less than 55 kHz, but the fact that a frequency doesn't appear on the list doesn't mean that it hasn't been allocated since I wrote this article.

If you're a hard-core pirate who's been around for years I'm sure you'll understand the message I'm trying to put across.

If you're a stromper I doubt if this article will even slow you down, but at least you'll know that horrible gurgling sound isn't just a burst of QTHR on the frequency but the death-rattle of a drowning diver whose distress call you obliterated.

Allocated frequencies between 27.400 MHz and 27.800 MHz (30 June 1987) are:-

27.420/27.440/27.445/27.500/27.505/
27.520/27.530/27.545/27.550/27.560/
27.565/27.580/27.595/27.600/27.610/
27.615/27.620/27.640/27.650/27.655/
27.660/27.665/27.670/27.680/27.690/
27.700/27.710/27.715/27.720/27.730/
27.745/27.750/27.760/27.795.

★ ★ ★

Reading through the preceding article prompted me to add a few more lines.

Various CB clubs have made submissions to DOC in the past about expanding the 27 MHz CBRS to 80 channels. I personally feel that 27 MHz-28 MHz should be declared a world-wide "no-man's land" ... total anarchy on a non-interference (outside this segment) basis. But then, I'm a bit radical.

27 MHz is the "garbage" portion of the spectrum, and is generally regarded as useless for serious communications. It's good for CB operations, and that's about it. The only reason all these licensed users of the Naughty Forty are there is because they're cheapshits who are too bloody miserable to buy decent equipment.

Years ago DOC told me that, because Australia is a signatory to the world-wide "Supress The Rights Of The Public To Communicate Without Paying For It" agreement and because other countries use the upper half of 27 MHz for various purposes, it would not be feasible to piss the existing Australian users off somewhere else and allocate the whole of 27 MHz for CB use or whatever. DOC still uses this argument today.

What I'd like to know is, if this "agreement" is so bloody important, how come the Poms could lob their FM-CB allocation right across the top of our 27 MHz marine toy wireless allocation? Their Channel 29 is 27.88125 MHz . . . 0.00125 MHz off our Channel 88 (the Safety Channel for those who don't really give a stuff about the safety of their families and are too lousy to buy a VHF rig). That's only 1/800 of a meg. A fly speck in real terms.

The fact that they're on the other side of the world doesn't make any difference. Any boating who didn't cop interference from Pommie CBers ("Breakers" the call themselves . . . YUK!!) on Channel 88 during 1982/83 needs a new antenna.

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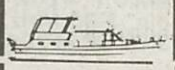

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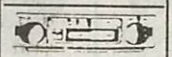

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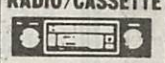

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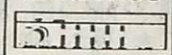

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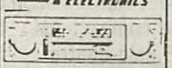

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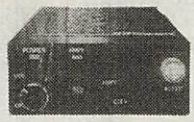

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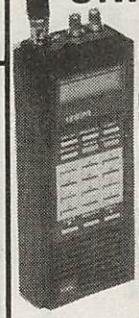

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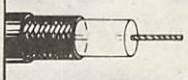
Coaxial Cables

Description	Trade & U.L. Type Number	AWG (Stranding) Dia. in In. Nom. D.C.R.	Insulation & Nominal Core O.D. Inch	Insulation & Nominal Core O.D. mm	No. of Shields & Material Nom. D.C.R.	Nom Imp. Ω	Nom. Vel. of Prop.	Nominal Capacitance pF/ft.	Nominal Capacitance pF/m	Nominal Attenuation MHz	Nominal Attenuation db/100 ft.	Nominal Attenuation db/100 m
RG-213/U MIL-C-17D	8267† ᵁᴸ1354 60C	13 (7×21) .089 bare copper 1.87Ω/M' 6.1Ω/km	Poly-ethylene .285	7.24	Bare copper 1.2Ω/M' 3.9Ω/km 97% shield coverage	50	66%	30.8	101.0	50 100 200 400 700 900 1000 4000	1.6 2.2 3.2 4.7 6.9 8.0 8.9 21.5	5.2 7.2 10.5 15.4 22.6 26.3 29.2 70.5
						Black non-contaminating PVC jacket.						
 RG-58A/U JAN-C-17A	8259 60C	20 (19×.0071) .035 tinned copper 10.8Ω/M' 35.4Ω/km	Poly-ethylene .114	2.90	Tinned copper 4.1Ω/M' 13.5Ω/km 96% shield coverage	50	66%	30.8	101.0	50 100 200 400 700 900 1000	3.3 4.9 7.3 11.5 17.0 20.0 21.5	10.8 16.1 23.9 37.7 55.8 65.6 70.5
						Black PVC jacket.						
MIL-C-17F M17/155-00001 (RG-58 C/U) QPL	8262 80C	20 (19×.0071) .035 tinned copper 10.8Ω/M' 35.4Ω/km	Poly-ethylene .116	2.95	Tinned copper 4.1Ω/M' 13.5Ω/km 95% shield coverage	50	66%	30.8	101.0	50 100 200 400 700 900 1000	3.3 4.9 7.3 11.5 17.0 20.0 21.5	10.8 16.1 23.9 37.7 55.8 65.6 70.5
						Black non-contaminating PVC						

Low Loss VHF/UHF Cables

Description	Trade & U.L. Type Number	AWG (Stranding) Dia. in In. Nom. D.C.R.	Insulation & Nominal Core O.D. Inch	Insulation & Nominal Core O.D. mm	No. of Shields & Material Nom. D.C.R.	Nom. Imp. Ω	Nom. Vel. of Prop.	Nominal Capacitance pF/ft.	Nominal Capacitance pF/m	Nominal Attenuation MHz	Nominal Attenuation db/100 ft.	Nominal Attenuation db/100 m
	9913 80C	9½ (Solid) .108 bare copper .90Ω/M' 2.95Ω/km	Semi-solid Poly-ethylene .285	7.24	Duobond II® +88% tinned copper braid 1.8 Ω/M' 6.0Ω/km 100% shield coverage	50	84%	24	78.7	50 100 200 400 700 900 1000 4000	0.9 1.4 1.8 2.6 3.6 4.2 4.5 11.0	3.0 4.6 5.9 8.5 11.8 13.8 14.8 36.1
						Black PVC jacket.						

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BELDEN 9913	LOW LOSS RG 8	$4.84
BELDEN 8267	MIL RG 213/U	$5.23
BELDEN 8259	RG 58 A/U	$0.91
BELDEN 8262	RG 58 C/U (MIL)	$1.19
BELDEN YR22385	COMMERCIAL RG 213	$2.14

CONNECTORS

ACME P/NO	TYPE	CABLE	PRICE
C39-106	N CRIMP PLUG	BELDEN 9913	$7.79
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C27-11	BELLING LEE PLUG — BNC JACK	$8.49	AND FM 620

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CLUB PROFILE

BUNBURY RADIO CLUB

Evening, 12 March, 1977

"I move the motion that we form a CB radio operators club." The motion is seconded and carried.

"I move that this club be called the Bunbury CB Radio Club". Seconded and carried.

So began the group known today as the Bunbury Radio Club," which earlier this year celebrated its tenth anniversary.

From a meeting attended by six local pirates, the club now has a steady membership of over one hundred enthusiasts.

Yet from the very start, the club was not content to just stay locked indoors and talk to other CBers. On Tuesday 17 May, 1977, a select committee met with the then Minister for Post & Telecommunications, Mr Robinson, to discuss the legality of CB radio — at the time still an illegal activity.

In 1987, the Bunbury Radio Club is still working to improve the lot of CBers and the recognition of their role in the community.

Bunbury itself is a port city on the south-west coast of WA, a few hours' drive from Perth. With a population of 23,500, it acts as a major centre for commerce, administration and shipping for the entire south-west region.

What better place to prove the worth of CB radio to the community than in a vital, growing city?

Over ten years, the Bunbury Radio Club has been involved in dozens of projects in the local area. Having proven the potential of CB radio for emergency and safety communications, they have recently been designated by the council as a standby body to assist the SES in emergencies.

The club has also decided to nominate a club Patron, and asked Bunbury City councillor Judy Jones if she would accept the position.

"Judy is a good lass, she is very community-minded, can mix with any company, and has done a lot of good in the local council," said club President Dave Lindsay. "We figure it will help having a voice on the council, as there are probably a lot of things we can get involved in and ofter our support towards."

Ms Jones was happy to accept the nomination, and says she is looking forward to working with the club and furthering their involvement with the city activities.

All the same, Bunbury Radio haven't fallen into the trap of becoming a club which exists only for community service, to the neglect of its members' interests.

It is very involved with the region's inter-club sports and social events, and run a string of barbeques, picnics, dances and dinners for members and friends.

Other happenings are more removed from the usual, with the odd singing contest held on-air (apparently the skip from Scotland is often running — and so is everyone within earshot — when the club's answer to Andy Stewart gets into high gear!).

The club is extremely active around the band, mostly 27 MHz but also on UHF through the local 2/32 repeater. There are three weekly nets, all held on ch. 22 LSB. These are the Juniors' Night (Monday — chat session and quiz night), games night (Friday) and roll call/news broadcast (Sunday).

They also have a very popular DX award, details of which can be found in this month's 'Log Book' column.

One of the group's most outstanding achievements would be their 'Guide to CB Radio, a pocket-sized 32-page book which details. . . well, everything for the beginner, and then some. An introduction to CB radio, operating procedures, emergency calling, how to use the rig, and a glossary of terms.

Written in a very concise and readable style by BR282 Don (with BR64 Les getting in the way every now and again!), both gents have crafted a great aid to first-time CBers which many clubs could do worse than examine and adapt to their own needs.

Don is currently updating this popular booklet, first produced some six years ago. The new edition will include information on UHF CB and repeaters, scanning, amateur and short-wave radio. The whole project is funded by advertisements placed in the book by local businesses, which also support the club's quarterly newsletter, 'Quarterwave'.

This is another project which the club have polished until it shone, the efforts of Dave Lindsay and others making it one of the best club mags around.

The same professional treatment has been given to their QSL cards, an attractive fold-out card finished in glossed black and gold. Ample room on the inside to pen a message to your contact, while the back cover provides information on the city of Bunbury, and the club's DX award.

The club has also produced a commemorative bookmark to mark their tenth anniversary, again with promotional club details on the rear.

Five thousand have been printed, kindly sponsored by Elricks TV Service at Bunbury — one of the club's most ardent supporters. These have been distributed to local libraries, bookshops and club members.

Other trimmings include cloth badges of the club logo, and car stickers. Sure, they may not be the only club to have these little touches, but it is the sign of a group that is organised, competent and has a bit of financial nouse.

Bunbury Radio Club also caters for junior members as best as possible. Each 'Quarterwave' devotes a few pages to puzzles, jokes and even recipes for the younger members, who are encouraged to be as active as everyone else. A few of them write regular reports for the mag on various happenings.

Dave Lindsay tells me that the club has even begun a DX award for club juniors, with both a perpetual trophy and a personal trophy for the junior who makes the most DX contacts. "The point of the exercise is to enthuse the kids, and to teach them to be responsible operators" says Dave. Sounds great!

Having celebrated their tenth birthday with a 'CB cake' baked by Fran BV440, and hailed as being 'faaaaantastical', the club now moves into their second decade.

What lies ahead for the Bunbury Radio Club! A better question would be 'What doesn't lie ahead?' — what can't they do, to make CB a respected part of everyday life for hundres of people in the region?

Only what they don't put their mind to. . . any CB club which wants to move ahead in leaps and bounds should take a few leaves from the Bunbury book.

The MONITOR

This issue, we start a new column — "THE MONITOR". Just in case the title is not self-explanatory, it's to enable ALL the emergency groups who use their own time, money and equipment monitoring the designated emergency channels on HF and UHF CB, to have a voice.

Like all columns in this magazine, it depends on input from other users and interested parties. In this case, the author does happen to be a member of a particular monitoring group, but this will in no way color his reporting — but, if your organisation doesn't come up with some news, then he must resort to what his own organisation is doing.

For too long now we have noticed a widening gap between some emergency monitoring groups, whose basic aim in most instances is identical. We want to promote some harmony and, in doing so, publicise the aspects of CB radio which the ordinary citizen is not aware.

Maybe, with a growing dossier of worth-while accomplishments, we can convice DOC to give our dedicated emergency monitors some support and protection, instead of sitting there motionless, like a magpie staring into a pickle bottle.

So, don't you just stand there — do something to help us help you!

Following a recent phone call to our editor, Peter, it was suggested that I put together a "pilot" edition of a column dealing with the activities of emergency CB groups. Being a member of one such group, it will be inevitable that in the short term, such a column will, of necessity, be basically a record of current (and possibly past) exploits of the organisation to which I belong.

However, I will welcome contributions from any source, and these will he handled in an impartial manner, so that in time the column can become an outlet for all monitoring groups, without favour.

10 YEARS OF ACRM

Formed in July 1977, the Australian Citizen Radio Monitors celebrated its 10th anniversary with a dinner at the Roseworthy Community Centre on July 17th.

ACRM was originally formed in 1973 as an action group to put the case of southern states CBers to the government of the day for the legislation of our service.

History records the parades, petitions and countless letters from not only ACRM but other concerned groups before, after four years of free sale of CBs in Australia — which could not legally be used — the legislation was passed and an Australian Citizen Radio Service legalised.

ACRM changed its name from Australian Citizen Radio Movement to "Monitors" and went to air to provide an effective monitoring service which has now spread to all states. Now for the next ten years.

MARINE MONITORING

One of the better known and most respected figures in SA monitoring is Gwen (Rover Base 1).

Set up originaly as a base for the local Small Boat Club, Gwen provides a complete service not only to SBC members, but to all who venture to sea for pleasure — or fishing (and who could possibly call fishing pleasure?).

Gwen started off monitoring the truckie channel when hubby Barry was piloting the 18 wheelers around the countryside and progressed to emergency monitoring after visiting an ACRM display at the Royal Adelaide Show.

While she still maintains contact with ACRM, Gwens main interest today is with the boaties, and she does it well.

With honorary membership of Coastguard and Sea Rescue to add to her regular duties, Gwen is a non-stop base for marine calls.

VALE KATE TELFORD

All good news must sometimes be tempered with some sadness. And it is indeed sad to report the loss of one of Mount Gambier's staunchest supporters of emergency monitoring.

Kate Telford started her monitrong career in 1977 with ACRM before switching to CREST in a community move by members of the Lake City CB Radio Club in 1978. As treasurer for CREST for some years, Kate proved her worth as a monitor and hard worker for CB monitoring in SA, and when she again switched back to ACRM in 1985, it was the rebirth of ACRM in the south-east areas of SA, as she encouraged other members by her example to rebuild the spirit of community assistance in the area.

The CB public has benefited from Kate's example — and we will miss her.

Thanks Kate, and condolences to her family on their loss.

We welcome any contributions in this column — send your letters to The Monitor, Box 83, PROSPECT SA 6582.

SYDNEY'S NEWEST REPEATER

David Flynn profiles the newest repeater in the Sydney UHF scene.

It had been one of the better kept secrets around town. A whisper here, a hint there, a discrete test in the late hours of the night.

When it appeared on air towards the end of March 1987, Sydney's channel 8/38 repeater fitted right in — quickly adopted by UHFers from the outer west, who finally had a repeater which met their needs.

In the early days of its operation, I spoke to the designer, owner and operator of 8/38 — UHF enthusiast John, NDU-607, from Penrith.

Channel 8/38, as John continually points out, is really a repeater meant for the outer-west of Sydney, from the suburbs to the flat lands around the Nepean and Hawkesbury Rivers.

"I think it's actually the first UHF CB repeater adjacent to a metropolitan area, which was deliberately designed not to cover the city itself," said John.

The coverage of the existing channel 3 repeater at Blacktown, was adequate for base stations of the area. But it was also unreliable for mobiles. As UHF grew more popular, local operators — both hobbyists and business users — began to realise the need for a repeater designed to cover their own region.

"Even those which could access ch. 3 had a weak rattly signal," says John. "If you had someone in Windsor or Richmond, talking through 3 to Penrith, then you've got two pretty bad signals, and it's too hard to understand."

"The whole idea of channel 8 is that you can walk around Penrith or Windsor now, with a handheld, and keep in touch with everyone else, even the mobiles."

"And 8 is very strong along the mobile routes to the east, too. As soon as it drops out, you're virtually underneath ch. 3 at Prospect, which will take you back to base stations here as well as around Sydney."

In fact, 8/38 is as much a link between Sydney's isolated outer-west and the established 477 MHz repeater network, as it is a 'local' repeater.

BEGINNINGS

The origins of 8/38 are to be found two years ago, when John came across an AWA repeater unit. A keen experimenter, he was the 'technical man' in the newly-formed Riverlands Repeater Group. A second person, Geoff, was aware of a suitable site, and began negotiations and tests. A third co-ordinated the licensing and administrative tasks.

"We first sent the application in around December 1985," says John. "But it took almost a year for the approval to come through — just slow paper work, I guess."

A few months after the application was lodged, the effort slowed. "We had nothing solid planned," said John. "Everyone thought the Department wasn't going to approve it. You can have a group built around a repeater, but you've got to have the repeater at some point."

This wasn't surprising. "2/32 was still in limbo, and every second week it was promised to come up on air. We didn't think we had a chance — maybe DOC thought that our repeater was too close to ch. 2's site." (The original site for 8/38 was Colo Heights, barely 10 km from the Kurrajong site of 2/32).

Then, in October 1986, John received a telephone call from the Department's Licensing Branch. His initial reaction was "What have I done now?" But the news was good — the licence for the repeater had been approved.

"I was stunned," said John. "We were resigned to thinking it wasn't going to go ahead. I just said thanks and hung up. Only later on that day did I think to call them back and find out the callsign and channel."

As one of the group had predicted, the channel was 8/38, and the callsign was COL08 — a neat pun on the site.

Except that the site was no longer available. And the gear, which had gone around the traps for a year, was not in the condition necessary for a reliable repeater service.

"I went through a stage thinking "What am I going to do?". We now had a licence, but the site had been lost since, and the gear had floated here and there and wasn't really up to it any more. I tried the run-around of a few companies, to help with equipment, but none of them were really very interested."

For 8/38 to be resurrected, it was a matter of starting from scratch.

"Then I was lucky to come across some gear through Bill Brodie, who runs ANCS at Blacktown. It was pretty much a Philips FM-828, brand new, but without the casing."

John set to work, treating the unit like a kit. Connect the power supply and boards together; construct the interface, ident and control boards — and, piece by piece, the repeater came together.

That the radio was unhoused turned out to be an advantage, from John's point of view. The whole unit was mounted in isolated boxes, the transmitter stage separated from the receiver to minimise de-sensing.

The repeater took shape over three months, with John spending evenings and weekends as work allowed. At the same time, the search for a new site was on.

Again, the need to start afresh

ad its benefits. The Colo location ad proved noisy to parts of Penth, especially the much-travelled oad along the Nepean River.

The unusual nature of 8/38's overage area made it a hard unit to ite. Too high, and it would reach ver much of Sydney — and possily cause DOC to re-think the lience, if it was seen to be ompeting with 2/32.

Too shallow, and the long tretch of the riverlands would outistance the repeater's range.

After some searching, a suitable ite became available, in the lower lue Mountains, east of Kurrajong.

"The advantage of our site is nat it's not 400 metres above sea vel, like Kurrajong Heights, but nly 200 m ASL. So the antenna ngle isn't that critical, because ou're not shooting over the top of veryone. You take a repeater like hannel 8 in Bathurst, which is at ne top of Mt Panorama, and you an't get into it in town, because 's firing right over the top of you."

In fact, once tests were made, nd the repeater eventually became perational, it was clear that the overage area was ideal.

Along the Nepean River; at Richnond, Windsor and Penrith; on the roads connecting the outer-west to Blacktown and the north-west, 8/38 is solid, all the way. As soon as it becomes weak, the user is well within good copy of ch. 3 Prospect.

Much of this is also due to the antenna system chosen for 8/38.

In place of the more traditional omni-directional base whips which many UHF CB repeaters use, John decided to employ two dipoles.

"These have the effect of dropping the angle of transmission down shorter, so there is more saturation along the ridge below the site." It also gives a slight north-south bias, to cover the townships and roads in both directions.

Once finished, the unit was run for extended periods on a dummy load — "to get the bugs out," says John. Then, a few appearances on air, to check audio and operational aspects.

"Then it went straight up and worked like a beaut. We got it going first, then went to air and everyone had a repeater without problems."

Throughout this period, John found the Department Of Communications to be most co-operative.

"I think the important thing is to understand that they've got their hands full with other licenses. I'm not the only bloke with a repeater or operating a two-way radio. So I didn't ring them up and pester them every day — so maybe that helped."

"But whenever I've called, they've been helpful enough. Alfred Reitano, from the Sydney licensing branch was helpful, never gave us any problems, and Ron Bertrand was pretty good. They're all willing to talk to you; when you explain what you are trying to do they are willing to listen, and maybe offer their opinion."

FEATURES

Once 8/38 was on air, people also began to notice the little differences between it and the other 'city' repeaters.

For a start, the 'tail' is two seconds long — in a city where the other repeaters have a tail that is a short half-second. "You need a decent tail to find a good position to transmit from," John believes.

"As a new repeater, people want to be aware of it, and a longer tail helps them to know just how well it comes in. With a half-second tail, you just can't see it on a meter

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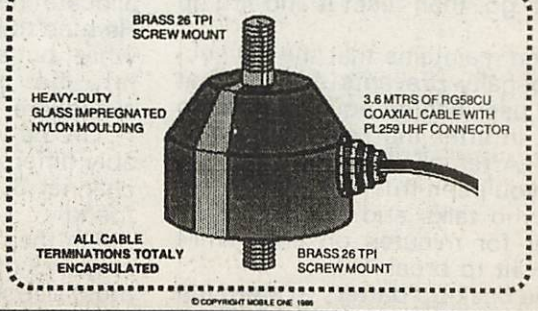
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or here it well enough."

At the end of each transmission is a short 'pip'. This is a feature that has proved popular on many repeater installations around Australia, and John has always supported the idea.

"If any one wants to break in, they just wait for the pip and call 'breaker', and they know they're going to be heard."

There is also a slight ('very, very slight' stresses John) key-up delay in order to access 8/38. This doesn't affect the incoming audio, unlike the Sydney ch. 3 delay which chops off the first syllable of a word. Weak, fluttering signals can still access 8/38, but it effectively stops quick 'kerchunkers'. "Sometimes a bit of static, may be from lightening, will fire up a repeater" says John. "The slight delay will stop this happening."

The time-out has been set to one minute — heaven on a stick for Sydney UHFers, who tolerate twenty seconds timers on other channels!

When a transmission exceeds this, the repeater gives a long 'beep' and drops out. Once the signal ceases, 8/38 waits a further 15 seconds (the 'penalty period'), before returning with a series of short pips.

"I put this in so that, if it gets timed out, you don't have to flick up to input, and keep dropping carriers to check if it is back. You just sit there and listen for it.

"On some repeaters, after they get timed out, you give it a kerchunk to see if it's back. But maybe everyone else is doing it, which can keep the thing timed out for half an hour.

"The penalty is also good when you get some people who sit there transmitting, and listen to the output on a scanner. When they hear the repeater drop out, they let the button go, then reset it and fire up again."

John maintains that the 15 second penalty prevents this, so that every user has an equal chance to break in after the repeater comes back. After all, how many times have you been frustrated by someone who talks and resets the repeater for minutes on end, while you wait to break in?

The back-up battery system (required by law in all UHF CBRS repeaters) has the capacity to last for hours under normal use. However, John has fitted a circuit to 8/38 which transmits a second 'pip' on the tail when the battery is in use.

"This tells people that the repeater is running on battery power, so they can keep their overs short and not waffle. So they extend the life of the battery until 240 volts is restored, and it stays on air longer, which is better for everyone."

Local acceptance of the repeater has been excellent, especially amongst the hobbyist fraternity.

"It's still very uncrowded, and is more of a CBers repeater at the moment," John observed. "They got a chance to have a bit of a waffle without being timed out. There's no serious ratbaggery, and it's a good quiet channel with a bunch of good blokes on it, all pretty friendly."

The provision of a 'local' repeater has also meant that no matter where you are in the area, you're covered by channel 8.

"Take someone like Gus, a local UHFer from Windsor," said John. "Before 8/38, you could be talking to him on ch. 3 at home, but when he went mobile you'd have to wait up to 20 minutes before he'd be back in range.

"Now it doesn't matter, the range of ch. 8 covers it all. In the house he'll have 8/38 on the base; walk around with the handheld on 8, and still be on the channel when he's mobile. All of us can get channel 8, almost all the time, unless we drive in towards Sydney."

Of course, it took a few days at first for local operators to become aware of the repeater. There was the occasional call on ch. 38 simplex, by people who were unaware of the repeater. Once informed, the stations either used the repeater or moved to another simplex channel.

"We did have one fellow on ch. 8 who had been there for years," John told me, "who couldn't undertand why the Department would allocate 'his channel' to a repeater. He tried to keep using simplex for a while, but as 8/38 got more popular, he gave up and went elsewhere."

On the whole, there is a noticeably different style of operation on channel 8. It's less hurried, more friendly.

On the city repeaters, with high amounts of traffic and many users, most people come on air to pass a message or tell their wife what time they'll be home — and then go clear.

At the time of writing, 8/38 was still a very quiet repeater, so operators stay and talk, maybe chat to the wife or boss for however long they please.

"Some people outside the coverage area were a little disappointed," said John. "The biggest area of concern was in Liverpool, south west of Sydney.

"Although ch. 3 is good for their bases and some mobiles, it's not the best. But then neither is 8 — it's not supposed to be. At least they have access to 1 and 3, but out here we've just never had that. So most have come to accept it."

Another surprise is the amount of goodwill directed towards the project from local UHFers. After all we've all heard of operators who are too ready to criticise but don't offer to get it going to improve it once it is on air.

But the support for 8/38 is something else. Almost everyone using the channel has at some time donated or offered to donate items.

"The offers have been great," said John. "It would be unfair to single any one person out, as everyone has done their bit, or offered to."

When the repeater was built ANCS' Bill Brodie helped with the tune-up.

When the site was found, it was made available rent-free, with no charge for electricity. Co-ax cable needed? 100 ft of RG-218, bought through an auction, was donated.

Both the temporary aerials and the dipoles were made available at no cost. When the FM-828 got a bit hot, a 12 VDC cooling fan was given to the effort.

Offers of financial support have also been made, but — although grateful — John has chosen to remain the sole supporter.

"If everyone has a part share then you get the politics of who owns it, and everyone wants a say in it. At the moment, I have full control. If I want to alter anything, or take it down for service, I can, and it won't be a problem.

"You can get too many cooks so to speak. But this is really a repeater that formed a group around it, not a club that decided to make a repeater.

"So far, everyone has taken this casually, and it's going great. If it gets serious, you can get problems. It's all pretty loose and friendly, and that's the best way for it to be."

SCANNING AROUND

By JOHN WILLMOTT

WARNING - I've been inundated th letters from CB Action readers out something that was in the ydney Scene' column in the last ue of the magazine.

"Is it true," you ask, "that we can py any published frequency tings without fear of retribution?"

Generally speaking, NO!

The law decides each case on particular facts but - generally eaking - if a person or organis-on publishes something and cludes their name and address at publication may be covered by pyright law.

You may agree or disagree with at - but it is the law!

I have been asked particularly out the E.S.G. Frequency gisters and can assure you that ey are very definitely protected copyright. In fact, E.S.G. took tion (successfully) against a large ganisation which copied one gister for use by its communic-ons section.

If any reader doubts that action uld be taken against them, just them try!

The reason for my being so sure out all this is that I have taken er the publishing of all the E.S.G. equency Registers and obtained gh-powered legal advice in the atter of copyright.

Always remember, where the w is concerned, don't make sumptions and never assume at your mate knows what he's king about when he spouts off out the law!

* * * * *

On the subject of frequency tings, CB Action must be veloping a large and interested adership over there in W.A. dging by the mail I've been ceiving from the West.

Two readers in particular have ovided a wealth of information out the use of the airwaves in ir part of the country.

I'm busy putting their information together and will present it you in a future issue.

Information from New South Wales and Queensland continues to be very sparse which is rather strange when you consider the very large number of organistaions using two-way in those two States.

Is it possible that the Premier State and the State with the Premier are so disorganised that nobody can figure out any coherent system in their radio communications?

* * * * *

Those of us who monitor the airwaves have all heard some very strange and funny things from time to time.

From Sydney - that's somewhere on the east coast of the continent - comes the story of a fellow who was twiddling the dials on his communications receiver and picked up a conversation which caused him to immediately tele-phone the local constabulary.

He listened, in astonishment, as a group of fellows happily discussed the details of a major drug deal they were about to undertake. It clearly wasn't a two-way transmission and the monitor assumed that somebody had unwittingly left a transmission key open.

Our law-abiding citizen was quite astonished when - not long after his phone call to the local nick - he was descended upon by a bunch of heavies from the Federal Police.

It seems that his receiver had picked up the transmissions from a 'bug' the Feds had planted in the villians room.

The Feds asked for and were given the monitor's assurance that he would keep very quiet about the matter as they were about ready to bust the baddies.

For the next few days our hapless listener was the most secure man in the big city as he moved about with a large escort of fearsome Feds who weren't prepared to trust his word!

* * * * *

In my last column I mentioned that a reply was still awaited from Communications Minister Duffy to a series of questions I had raised arising from queries received from readers.

That reply was received shortly before the magazine went to press and, rather than try to slip in a brief summary of the contents, I decided to hang on to until this issue.

I've read it again and again, and it seems - to me - to raise a whole new bunch of questions.

* * * * *

Two new scanners/comms. receivers will be available on the Australian market before the end of the year one of which is likely to set a new standard for monitoring equipment at a not unreasonable price.

It's about time. We've waited too long for a decent piece of equipment which covers the frequency ranges in use today, has a high degree of selectivity - and is simple to operate!

* * * * *

If you're driving along the F5 South Western Freeway in NSW keep your scanner tuned to 83.880 MHz and you'll hear Highway Patrol airborne units directing ground units after speeding motorists!

* * * * *

All mail to:

SCANNING AROUND,
G.P.O. Box 1200,
Adelaide 5001
South Australia

UHF NEWS

By GREG TOWELLS

Thanks to everyone who wrote with info on the latest repeater and UHF happenings. It is very pleasing to see the repeater network charging ahead in leaps and bounds, particularly in Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia. I do wonder, though, about Queensland and NSW at times. Maybe Queensland has ceased to exist by decree of Sir Joh or something, from the amount of news I receive from north of the border and if I wasn't based in NSW, I probably wouldn't get to hear anything about here either. Get the hint? Please let me know about happenings in your area, especially new repeaters and then I can let everyone else know as well.

Some more news about the SA UHF scene, from Brian Groves, SAJ190 (thanks, yet again). Firstly, more information about 2/32, Myponga and its recent upgrading. Brian reports it is the best it has ever been. Congratulations continue to go to the licensees and in particular Andrew SCG128, who has gone out of his way to keep the station up to full operation — from all I have heard about MYP02, it must be one good repeater since all I hear is non-stop praise — the way it should be.

Another interesting snippet from Brian. Apparently Andrew has MYP02 equipped with a built-in computer function to assess how the repeater is being used, that is, the number of transmissions per day, their length and an overall percentage use over the days surveyed. The busiest day was found to be Tuesday (ACBRO broadcast on Tuesdays, from eight to 10pm a major contributing factor), with 3035 transmissions for a total of 420 minutes of use, with an average transmission length of only 8.4 seconds! Repeater useage for the day was 29.4 per cent, other days were between 10 and 23 per cent.

SA repeater rumours, courtesy of Brian, suggest a repeater for the mid-north of SA and a possible 'portable' repeater for an emergency of similar group.

NSW repeater rumours suggest a possible repeater for Gosford and district. The channel rumoured is either 4/34 or 8/38.

★ ★ ★

Heard on the grapevine recently that a small, but rather violent group are planning action against some of the more regular western Sydney 'Power Stations', who persist in dominating the local repeaters, 1/31 in particular. After having heard this advice from more than one reliable source, I would be inclined to worry for the safety of more than one station kicking around. This type of thing is a clear sign to the 'my power station means that I can get over the top of everyone else' types that legitimate users have gone past the stage of sheer frustration to possible action. While vigilante action is rarely successful, my advice to those various 'westie power stations' would be to cool it and give everyone else a go on the repeaters.

★ ★ ★

Recently, in a blaze of publicity, DOC removed an extremely well-known and hated pest from two metres in Sydney. Previous to this, the now ex-station, complete with legal callsign, irritated, annoyed and caused extensive, deliberate interference to users of the Dural repeater, along with dozens of other anonymous, generally high-voiced stations who delighted in all manner of jamming and other destructive behaviour. What is extremely noticeable now the 'mouth from the mountains' has been removed from two metres, amid stacks of publicity, is an almost complete lack of jamming, wombats and other pests inhabiting the subject repeater. The point made here is that what is desperately needed on most major city repeaters is a show of well publicised DOC force. The removal of a few of the more regular pests on various repeaters who continually and deliberately interfere and harass other stations, accompanied by widespread news releases and the promise of more action to come would go a long way in ridding the repeaters of the army of morons which now inhabit them.

Deliberate interference is a major offence under the Radcom Act 1983 and if the book were thrown at the first few operators caught then the rest would quickly smarten up their method of operating. We can only hope. Anyone care to comment?

★ ★ ★

A must for all Sydney UHFers or visitors to Sydney. The LA club broadcasts their CB news broadcast on UHF channel 25 every Sunday night starting at 8pm. The broadcast is also carried on 2 megs and relayed by various stations north to Gosford and south to Wollongong. You can catch up with the club meetings, coming events, competitions and various newsworthy happenings on the CB bands (from my monitoring of 2 megs, I would have thought the news from that band would take around 10 seconds to read out! but that's being nasty). While the

roadcast is slanted towards 27 MHz, there is much to hear which is f interest to UHFers (most UHFers un 27 megs as well, don't they?) o all you UHFers, if you have anyhing you consider to be even the lightest bit newsy, let the LA club now all about it (and let me know bout it as well!).

★ ★ ★

Who were the wags conducting n on-air auction of the 1/31 Hurstille repeater, on the 1/31 repeater? This happened a few months go, (late because of deadlines, gain!) here in Sydney. Bidding was risk for nearly an hour and reached early $900,000, before someone nentioned that the repeater came omplete with wombats, power tations and the rest of the scumuckets. Bidding restarted, but ailed to get into double figures. A hame that! Heard that 925, Bill vas saving up to buy it, but the first igure really knocked the wind out f his sails.

★ ★ ★

Thanks to Paul Mason of the Central Highlands Repeater Assocition for the copy of the CHRA's Channel Listing booklet. This very rofessional looking publication ontains repeater hints and pointrs, emergency procedures, a listng of Australia-wide repeaters and listing of known Victorian UHFers nd their regular channel. Congrats re due to the CHRA for this effort nd they have my best wishes for he future. Paul also sent me some urther info on the local UHF scene round Ballarat.

The Central Highlands Repeater Association sponsors the BAL-02 epeater situated at Mt Buninyong, ear Ballarat Vic. Ballarat is approxmately 115 km from Melbourne nd BAL-02 provides communicaion with Melbourne, Geelong, Daylesford, Cressy, to name a few. Paul reports a number of repeaters an be accessed by most base staions in Ballarat. Channel Seven at Mt Bolton is easy to trigger and rovides similar coverage to 2/32, ut gives more coverage to the orth.

Base stations in the Ballarat area an also access channel six on Mt William (Grampians), channel eight t Mt Alexander (near Bendigo), hannel three Weeaproinah (Otway anges). There is also a rumour of a channel five emergency repeater for the area. Ballarat stations, Paul says, can communicate from north to Echuca, east to the Dandenong Ranges, west as far as the SA border and as far south as there are UHF operators with this array of repeaters. To say Ballarat is quite a good location is a bit of an understatement. Thanks Paul.

Another one to Philips. Canberra's newest repeater, 8/38 was officially 'handed over' at around 6pm on 18 June, 1987, by Noel from Philips. The first stations to be heard were John 364, Sonny 532, Neville 17 and a number of others.

The new repeater is situated in the same hut as 2/32 on Isaacs Ridge and should ease the congestion on 2/32 during business hours in particular. It has been noted that there are stations in the Canberra area who are still using channel 38 for simplex contacts. It would be appreciated by all users of the new repeater if those stations could choose another channel to work with, now that 8/38 is fully operational. Thanks to John for the above info.

★ ★ ★

The Omega Club of Melbourne, has just announced the winner of the annual 'Golden Yagi' award. For those readers not familiar with the reason for the award, the Golden Yagi is awarded annually to a person or company for their outstanding service to UHF CB. The 1987 Golden Yagi has been awarded to David Flynn, well known for his unending contributions to this magazine and much work well done for the Sydney repeater scene. The award was accepted by Graham Pockett, on David's behalf. Congratulations, David, you thoroughly deserve this one mate!

The Omega club also has a member of the month award, to a selected member for his work and support of and for the club. At the end of the year, one of the twelve is selected and awarded the VBN 925 award. This award is in memory of the late VBN 925, Charlie and is presented annually to a member who is active and outstanding in their work for the Omega club for the year. Just a quick word about the Omega club themselves. Their eighth anniversary will have passed by the time you read this, however the event will be celebrated by an anniversary broadcast and hopefully by the next issue, I will have more info about this one. The Omega club would have to be the most well-known and respected UHF club in Australia. Congratulations on your eighth birthday and keep up the good work.

★ ★ ★

One last snippet for all you do-it-yourselfers out there on UHF intent on installing your brand new cellular phone in your vehicle. Call Me Communications in Parramatta have come up with an 800 MHz SWR/PWR meter so you can check your installation for correct operation. Accurate measurements of power and SWR are now possible with this all-Australian designed and built meter. The accompanying instruction manual is very detailed and even gives diagnoses for any difficulties encountered during installation. So go to it.

That's all for this month on UHF News. Don't forget to write with any UHF or repeaters notes and news, the address is P.O. Box 358, Granville, NSW, 2142.

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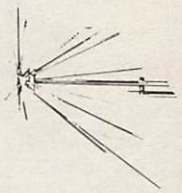

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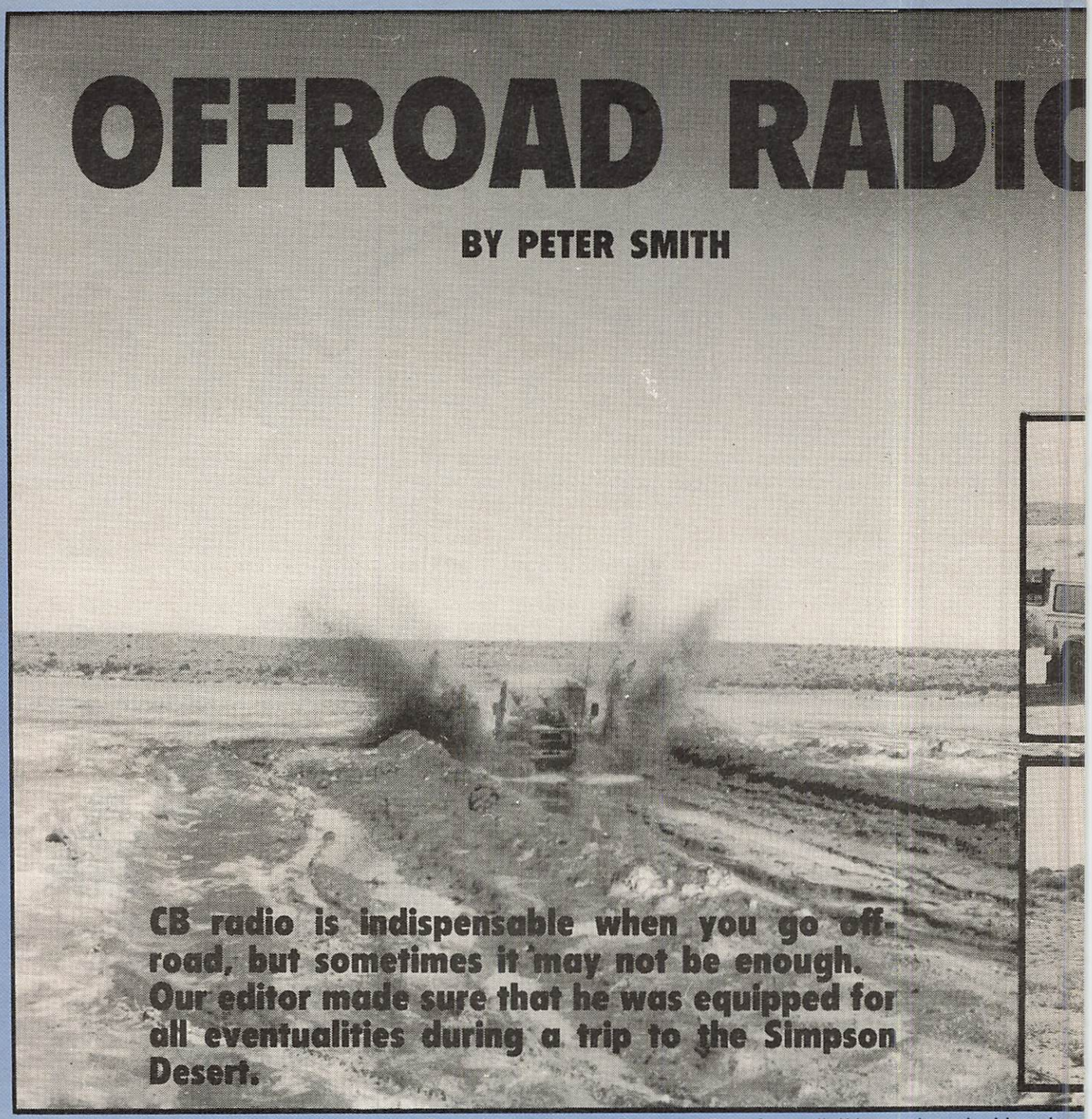
OFFROAD RADIO

BY PETER SMITH



CB radio is indispensable when you go offroad, but sometimes it may not be enough. Our editor made sure that he was equipped for all eventualities during a trip to the Simpson Desert.

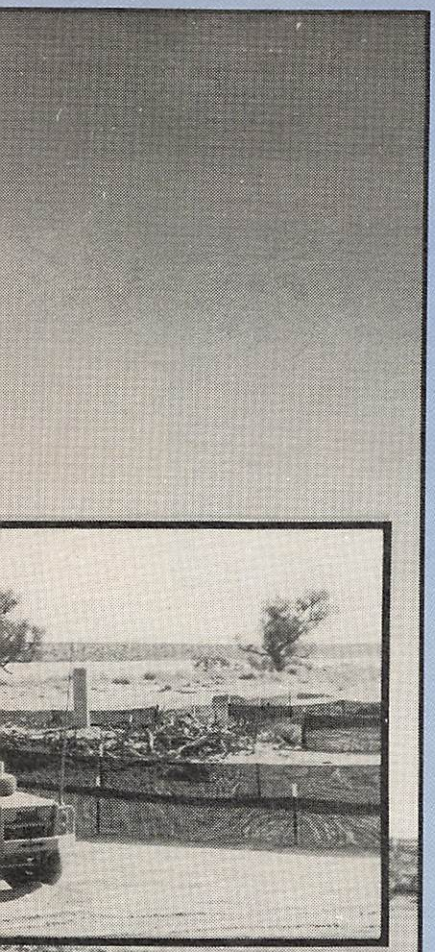
If you were paying attention while you were reading our last issue, you will remember that I mentioned a trip through the Simpson Desert - with our old mate Fred.

Bob Maron, the editor of our sister publication "4x4 Australia" was intrigued by our intention to carry four different types of two-way communications on this trip, and in retrospect, I guess it was fair comment. With three vehicles, we had among us three mobile UHF CBs, two UHF handhelds, one 27 MHz mobile, one 27 MHz handheld, one Royal Flying Doctor Service HF radio, and a HF amateur rig — and at one time or another during the 5310km travelled, we used them all. Ever since the advent of UHF, we have found that this service is ideal for convoy type communications. There is no interference from skip, and the audio quality is far superior to 27 MHz. there is also the advantage that in the city prior to departure on any trip, it is possible to use the repeater system to make sure that all vehicles are heading for the same rendezvous. On our "4x4 Australia" jaunts into the hinterland we have had up to eight vehicles involved, and getting them to the start line at the appointed hour is a major accomplishment at times.

The UHF handhelds were used while "pedestrian mobile" at the numerous campsites, and in one instance when a mobile rig temporarily spat the dummy.

Why then did we need 27 MHz as well?

It has been our experience that most offroaders stick to 27MHz



and operate on the accepted 'road'' channel, channel eight. It might surprise some of you that the Simpson Desert is not as devoid of traffic as you think, and it is composed of sand dune after sand dune running north and south. We were travelling from west to east across the dune line, which meant that we spent a great deal of time cresting the top of the seemingly endless rows of dunes. We figured that it was perfectly feasible that there may be another group tacking the desert from east to west on the same track, and we didn't want any nasty surprises at the top of a sand dune if we could avoid it, so we sand-bagged on 27 MHz channel eight.

Fred had also arranged to put out calls to a mate of his who was ferrying 40 school kids around the same area, in eight four wheel drives, so the 27MHz rig was going to be used one way or another. In fact, 27MHz proved fairly useless for this task despite several attempts, but in typical Fred fashion, he managed to make contact. He nearly T-boned his mate in Birdsville while doing a U-turn . . .

This was my first visit to the Simpson, and after hearing stories from friends who have made the trip, I have developed a healthy respect for what we could expect should the desert, Murphy's Law, and Fred combine their talents against us, hence the RFDS radio. This unit had to be acquired from outside our organisation, as it is not exactly the sort of thing we have lying around. What we hadn't taken into account was that our trip coincided with the school holidays, and hire RFDS rigs were at a premium. The Victorian experts in the field, Rural Communications, eventually found one for us and did the installation at very short notice. If you are going to the trouble of taking an RFDS radio - and we strongly suggest that you do, it is essential that the rig be expertly installed, and the special antenna tuned properly. It's not cheap, but then again neither is life itself.

The advantage of an RFDS radio is the speed with which you can summon assistance, 24 hours a day. Amateur radio and CB are all very well, but they rely on another operator relaying the details of your plight to someone who can assist. If you have a real emergency, this additional time needed for the relay can make the difference between life and death. Another benefit is the ability to be able to make radio telephone calls via the RFDS during the day, just to reassure those left at home that all is well. You can also pick up important information on track conditions from the locals using the RFDS on the chat channels, which is essential if you strike bad weather. The track conditions can virtually change overnight from OK to impassable, and it can save a lot of time and trouble. Personally, I hate having to winch through mud .

The amateur HF rig was brought along for a couple of reasons. Most important, it was a back-up to the RFDS rig should it fail - the extra power and frequency coverage of the HF rig would leave 27MHz CB in its dust. And, just in case you think that we might have been operating illegally, there were two licensed amateurs on the trip.

Initially, we weren't too sure that we would be able to make the trip back to our Melbourne sked on 80 metres, but our fears proved groundless. We were able to make contact every night at the appointed hour, and in fact this rig was used in preference to the RFDS rig for keeping the folks back home informed of our position and continued good health. The newcomers to amateur radio operation were more than somewhat intrigued with the corona of blue sparks issuing from the tip of the HF antenna in the cold desert air - they were like kids at a bonfire. But then, even adults are easily amused after a couple of Captain Morgans and coke.

The trip wasn't without incidents which could have necessitated outside assistance. My vehicle decided that it had had enough of four wheel drive and tried to punch the front drive shaft through the floor after a universal expired. It also took a deep breath of salt water while crossing a salt lake, and from then on had to be towed five kilometres every morning to convince the electrics to wake up. Fred's truck also suffered a ''drown'' after he tried to defy the law of physics that states a heavily loaded HJ60 will not float after it's speed falls below 120kph. Now, that was spectacular. Editor Maron still thinks that taking all that radio gear was a classic case of over-kill, but in our opinion, if you've got it — take it.

In this particular instance, we would have gotten by without all the systems, but having Fred along, combined with how my luck's been running lately made me nervous. You may not be able to rake-up all that gear, or indeed have an amateur licence, but we would seriously recommend that you look into an RFDS unit if you are travelling through the centre, no matter how much faith you place in your CB.

You mightn't get a second chance.

NEW TEST RIG FOR CELLULAR PHONES

If you need to test an installation of one of the newer cellular mobile telephones, you might have had trouble — until now. Call Me Communications of Parramatta are selling a completely Australian built and designed SWR/Power meter that accurately measures power and SWR in the 800-900MHz region where these exotic radios transmit.

Designated model 03-801, the meter is designed for installers who need a rugged instrument to check antennas and cabling. A very detailed instruction manual is included, which takes the operator step by step through the various procedures and checks and even diagnoses likely reasons for various difficulties.

SPECIFICATIONS — 03-801 SWR METER

Frequency range	800-900MHz
Power measurement	0-5W
Meter scales	Power/SWR
SWR Resolution	1.5:1
Insertion loss	(less than) 0.3dB
Mode of operation	Directional coupler
Directivity	(greater than) 20dB
Meter movement	1mA FSD
Impedance	50 ohms
Connector type	TNC
Accessories inc	TNC to TNC coaxial cable
Size	145 x 160 x 75mm
Weight	500g approx.

For further information call: Call Me Communications Phone (02) 633 3545 Fax: (02) 891 2271. 28 Parkes Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150

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New Gear

"THE EXECUTIVE" CELLULAR MOBILE PHONE

For the busy executive on the move, there is now only one cellular mobile telephone that doesn't compromise, according to David of Captain Communications. David sells the world-leading Novatel brand of cellular phones, but found he needed to add essential features wanted by people "on the move". His engineering staff has built the "perfect mobile phone".

What does it have that's so special?

★ It's completely self contained in its own rugged attache case, which still has room for documents.

★ It has automatically adjustable power output, up to the legal limit of 4.5 watts. Many handheld and transportable models only put out 500mW (half a watt), making them unreliable in difficult areas such as many parts of Western Sydney.

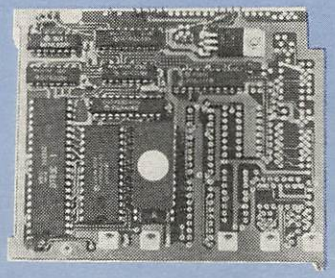
★ "The Executive" works on all power sources. Internal heavy duty rechargeable batteries have a life of four hours. In a car, the phone can be powered and recharged at the same time via the car's electrical system. An adaptor for 240VAC is also supplied.

★ And it doesn't need an antenna sticking out. David's engineers have built a high-gain antenna into the lid of the case. It's so effective, the phone doesn't even need an external antenna from inside a car — how's that for convenience!

★ As far as phone features go, "The Executive" has all the bells and whistles — loudspeaking operation, memories and even "alpha tagged" memories for people who haven't got one! Automatic call diversion to a fixed or variable number is another easily arranged facility. David even reckons he can fit a fax machine in!

As far as power and range goes, the phone has certainly proved itself, with happy customers as far afield as Mittagong and West Campbelltown.

For further information and pricing call: David Gill, Captain Communications, 28 Parkes St, Parramatta, phone (02) 633 4333.



DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION UNIT

Imark Pty. Ltd. has released an Australian designed digital morse code identification unit suitable for fitment to repeaters or transceivers.

This digital ID is a digital microprocessor controlled module featuring state of the art technology and includes an EPROM for ease of programming. This allows the various parameters for time out time, identification speed and frequency, ident time and ident tone, etc to be tailored to suit customers requirements.

This module is easily interfaced to repeaters or transceivers and is ideal for use with amateur repeaters. Furthermore, additional software features can be provided upon request.

The Digital ID unit is compact and weighs only 125g. It is supplied complete with mounting hardware and installation instructions to enable easy installation.

The Imark Digital ID unit is priced at only $223.75 each FOB Melbourne, or $227.50 each including airmail postage and is available for shipment within 24 hours.

Further details can be obtained from the designers and manufacturers, Imark Pty. Ltd., 167 Roden Street, West Melbourne, Victoria, 3003, Australia. Telephone (03) 329 5433, or Fax (03) 328 4431 or Brisbane (07) 52 7171 or Sydney (02) 534 4077 or Perth (09) 474 1051.

New Gear

FREQUENCY REGISTERS

Scanner users — is the frequency you are listening to Pine Gap, ASIO or the CIA!? To find out, buy your own copy of the appropriate Scanner Frequency Register from Captain Communications of Parramatta.

"A huge amount of work has gone into compiling these Registers," says David Gill of Captain Communications "and the scanning enthusiasts are delighted — it's just what the hobby needs." The registers provide full information on all listed frequencies, including transmit and receive frequencies (essential for duplex users), call sign, licensed user's name and transmitter location." There are a number of registers, covering the entire LF, HF, VHF and UHF bands.

1. The Australian HF Frequency Register: This register has been compiled from Department of Communications information. It contains over 400 pages, covering frequencies from 2.009Hz to 26.965Hz. Price is $38.00

2. The HF/VHF/UHF Register: Coverage is 200-531kHz, 1755-26.965MHz, 30.075-1300MHz. Really interesting parts of the spectrum are covered, including Marine, Air Traffic and Defence frequencies. Price is $19.00

3. The Australian VHF/UHF Register: This state by state register covers from 42.500 to 512.925MHz. Price is $24.50

4. Australian Master Register: This complete register covers VHF and UHF for all states. Price is $100.00

For further information call: David Gill, Captain Communications, 28 Parkes Street, Parramatta, phone (02) 633 4333.

6-CHANNEL AM HANDHELD TRANSCEIVER

Standard Communications Pty Ltd has released the new TX64 Series 27 MHz 5 Watt, 6 channel AM general purpose handheld transceiver.

The TX64 comes complete with three general purpose channels fitted.

Channels 4, 5 and 6 can be fitted with crystals to suit user requirements.

The TX64 Series is available with the traditional telescopic aerial or with a SO239 socket installed to accept a standard PL259 screw on 600 millimetre flexi whip antenna.

With the minimum of controls, the TX64 is extremely easy to operate. The unit incorporates variable squelch, channel selector, 'on/off' volume control and LED battery indicator. Weighing only 650 grams, the unit is ideally suited where portability is a key factor.

The TX64 comes complete with shoulder strap and unique rain jacket which allows the set to be operated while fully enclosed within the rain jacket.

Standard Communications has designed the TX64 to operate from traditional alkaline cells, a nicad pack or an external 12V supply. The unit comes standard with a 12V DC power-charging lead complete with cigarette lighter plug for easy connection to a 12V car battery. When connected to the TX64, it provides instant power and a trickle charging source to the nicad pack when fitted.

Standard Communications offers as an optional accessory to the TX64, a nicad pack BP950 and the BCE1445 battery charger. With the nicad pack and the 240V wall charger, the TX64 can be charged from the existing 12V supply or trickle charged overnight.

NEW RADAR DETECTOR

Speed Safe in Sydney has launched the smallest and probably the most advanced radar detector in the world.

The control unit for this detector is smaller than a credit card. It is what is called a "remote" detector, where a small antenna is placed out of sight behind the car's grille and the Bankcard-sized controls hide out of view.

This new radar detector offers many advantages over all others. It will only false alarm half a dozen times in the whole of NSW, and it is the first detector developed for use against the new across-the-road (slant) radar, providing up to a kilometre warning, while the range against the mobile and handgun radars is in excess of five kilometres.

The unit is available from Speed Safe at $599 including overnight delivery. It is not cheap, but these days it seems to be an essential accessory. Phone (02) 558 4004 for a brochure.

NOTE: Radar detectors are illegal only in Victoria.

AUSTRALIAN LOW-POWER LICENCE FREE SERVICES

The provision for low-power, o-licence services in Australia as introduced by the DOC in 982. Originally intended for sim-e remote control toys and chil-ren's walkie-talkies, it has since een extended to include cordless lephones, more sophisticated RC adio control) equipment and OX-type headsets.

These are the four general ser-ces that the DOC have qualified as ence-free.

Walkie-talkies and simple RC ys are allocated three channels - 27.145 MHz (ch. A), 27.095 Hz (B) and 40.68 MHz (C), though channel C is used for RC ys only. In this service, any mode permitted, provided it does not xceed a 20 kHz band centred on e carrier frequency (so TV is ut!). The maximum DC input pow-is 250 mW (1/4 watt), which ovides an output of about 100 W.

Sophisticated RC equipment for odel aircraft, boats and cars op-ates over four separate bands. he output may be anywhere up to w (EIRP), using the AM, FM or W modes. These bands are:

and I ● 26.957 — 27.282 MHz (not recommended by DOC)

II ● 29.72 — 30 MHz (for general use)

III ● 36.05 — 36.55 MHz (26 channels at 20 kHz spacing, for use by competition-type RC systems only)

IV ● 40.66 — 40 .70 MHz

Cordless telephones use two bands, each with sets of paired frequencies — like the input/output channels of a repeater, except telephones operate in 'full duplex' mode, whereby both parties can speak at once. These bands are 1.7/40 Mz and 30/39 MHz.

Ch.	Base tx	Handheld unit tx
A	1.725 MHz	40.025 MHz
B	1.740	40.075
C	1.755	40.125
D	1.770	40.175
E	1.785	40.225
1	30.075	39.775
2	30.125	39.825
3	30.175	39.875
4	30.225	39.925
5	30.275	39.975

The final DOC category for these licence-free services applies to VOX-headset units and some of the more modern handhelds. These use FM only, with a maximum output of 50 mW. There are five channels.

The American FCC (equivalent of DOC) has taken a more liberal approach to the no-licence QRP (low power) concept. It appears that it is a form of 'hobbyist' band, covering 49.83 — 49.86 MHz. Power is restricted to 100 mW, with AM, FM, SSB AND CW (morse code) permitted.

Ch.	Frequency
A	55.020 MHz
B	55.035
C	55.050
D	55.065
E	55.030

The twist is that VF (variable frequency) operation is also allowed and gear may be home-built. Equipment constructed in this way must of course conform to FCC specifications, but no expensive type-approval of each finished item is necessary.

The effect has been to encourage a new breed of young (or at least youthful) experimenters into hobby radio. Here, they gain first hand experience of equipment construction, modification and RF techniques.

The 49 MHz service also caters for kiddie walkie-talkies, which use crystal-locked channels towards the bottom of the band (49.83 MHz is the most popular, and often acts as a low-power local calling and chat channel).

BANKCARD — VISA — MONEY ORDER

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1. Super Bengal Mkill.....$569
2. Uniden Washington.....$519

BASE ANTENNAS
1. Element Beam.....$129
2. Station Master 3/4W.....$55

SSB MOBILES
1. GE 3-5826.....$379
2. Uniden PC-122.....$295
3. Uniden AX-144.....$295
4. Super Puma.....$239
5. Super Cheetah Mk111.....$279
6. Uniden Grant.....$359
7. Electrophone TX-840.....$329

ACCESSORIES
1. Electrophone base mic.....$69.95
2. H/held power mics.....$39.95
3. Standard h/held mic from.$22.95
4. SWR meter from.....$29.95
5. SWR meter and matcher from.....$45.95
6. Antenna matcher.....$29.95
7. Extension speaker.....$25.95
8. PA horns.....$17.95

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LINEAR AMPS
SPECIAL Spoken 200W and Palomar, with full variable output
25W — 100W AM
50W — 200W SSB $349

MARINE RADIOS
1. Uninden Barracuda.....$279
2. Pearce-Simpson Sea Wolf.....$159
3. GME GX284 AM.....$189
4. GME GX282 SSB marine.....$259
5. Uniden Dolphin MC2700.....$149
6. Uniden Sea Wasp MC4300.....$169
7. Uniden AX55.....$149

RANGE OF MARINE ANTENNAS AVAILABLE

AM MOBILES
1. Colt 55.....$119
2. Pearce-Simpson Hyundai.....$109
3. GE 3-5808.....$139
4. Uniden AX-14.....$159
5. Uniden Pro 510.....$129
6. Pearce-Simpson Trucker.....$199
7. Uniden Pro 520.....$149
8. Uniden AX44.....$169
9. GE 3-5828.....$189
10. GE 'Help'.....$139

UHF
1. NEW Uniden UHF H/held.....$499
2. TX-475 2.5W H/Held.....$659
3. NEW Sawtron 999.....$759
4. Uniden Sundowner.....$375
5. Leopard.....$349
6. Saiko SC7000 Scanner.....$599
7. Bearcat XL100 H/h scanner.....$359
8. 4dB non ground plane antenna.....$28
9. 6dB gutter mount antenna.....$$79
10. UHF 10dB base antenna.....$150
11. UHF 12dB base antenna.....$165

NEW PRODUCT RELEASE
ELECTRONIC CORDLESS TELEPHONE SYSTEM
Telecom app.
$279

CLUB REGISTER FORM

If you wish to have your club name listed in the CB ACTION Club Register, please ask your club secretary to fill in this coupon and post to "CB ACTION CLUB REGISTER, Box 628E GPO, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001."

Due to printing deadlines, it is possible for new entries to take up to two issues before appearing.

If you don't want to cut your copy of CB ACTION magazine, either photostat the coupon or send your entry in on a separate letter giving all the relevant details.

Overseas entries are welcome.

Please print or type — applications that are either illegible or not completely filled out may not be included in the listing.

Authorised by .....Pres /Sec.

CB Action Club Register

FULL CLUB NAME .....

.....

ADDRESS .....

.....

P/CODE ..... STATE .....

CLUB NEWS

LUE HEELER OCIAL RADIO CLUB

Must be the month for true blue ussie-type groups — here's a re- ort from the Queensland Blue eeler Social Radio Club.

"A BBQ was held in Geelong on ly 5th," says QBH 696 Terri, "at e home of Ian and Margaret, the 16 & 717. They kindly opened eir huge backyard to Geelong eswick, Ballarat, Dromana and rntree Gully.

"QBH 33 George made two at- mpts to travel from Brisbane to e cold state. On the first try his r had a fight with a semi and on e second attempt his tyres got ed. Being the cold state anyway, endship warmed the day when e clouds rolled in and the day was joyed by all who attended."

The QBH Social Radio Club is oping to hold their next BBQ in ecember. They have made a good oup of friends through CB radio d make contact whenever poss- e with the aim of enjoying each her's company, both on and off e air.

They also aim to encourage od manners and conduct on air d operation in accordance with OC regulations.

For further details contact QBH 96 Terri at PO Box 649, Geelong, c. 3220.

NITED PHEASANT LUCKERS

I present the following letter thout comment on its validity or ent. But the TIC (tongue in eek) meter went off the scale!

"The United Pheasant Pluckers, hilst not being selective or elitist, ve a membership restricted mewhat by the nature of our club gulations, which require mem- rs to be of outstanding character the true Aussie tradition.

To further elucidate, Pheasant ucker 1 (President Shamus Hooligan) went nine rounds with goanna inside a hollow log and tired without a scratch.

Pheasant Plucker 2 (Redicalus cholus, PP 1's minder) saved our beloved Queensland Premier Sir Joh from attack by a homicidal maniac. But he controlled himself . . .

Pheasant Plucker 3 beat up to RIs single handed, then put the local state police officer out of circulation just to show he was impartial.

Pheasant Plucker 5 designed a linear which steams at 2000 whiskeys, plus a water-cooled antenna to match, which operates efficiently without plunging the entire electorate into darkness. Another switch converts her into an arc welder.

The club is open to all True Aussies, excluding such persona nonagrata as MPs, bookmakers, whinging cockies, Col. Gadaffi and Prune-head Pewster".

What more can I say? Their address is South Calliope St, Springsure Qld, 4722.

REPEATER FOR NSW SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

After a year of planning, the Southern Highlands 6/36 repeater is operational.

Undergoing final testing at time of writing, 6/36 is located at Mt Gibralter, 100km south-west of Sydney. Established by the Southern Highlands Repeater Association, 6/36 will be another link in the 477 MHz repeater network of Sydney.

Indications are that the reliable mobile coverage will extend from Campbelltown and Camden, rapidly developing urban areas in Sydney's outer south-west, through to Goulburn and edges of the NSW south coast.

As with the Sydney outer-west repeater on 8/38, the Southern Highlands Repeater Association intend to concentrate the coverage of 6/36 around the south-west and avoid pitching the signal into the greater Sydney area.

It has already been observed that Sydney, with three repeaters, has no further need for access to a fourth, especially one which will have an extensive range throughout the south-western region, especially the F5 freeway and the Hume Highway.

When finalised, 6/36 will enable mobile stations travelling between Sydney and Goulburn to remain in contact for the entire journey.

After leaving Sydney on ch. 1/31 or 3/33, mobiles can operate through 6/36 south until 4/34 Goulburn is within range.

CB ACTION congratulates the Southern Highlands Repeater Association for their efforts in getting 6/36 on air and hopes that the repeater will be well supported by local UHF users.

With the interest in a repeater for the Central Coast and Gosford/Entrance and the possibility that the Sydney-wide 2/32 repeater may appear sometime this year, it may not be long before Sydney UHFers can journey north to Newcastle, west to Bathurst and South to Canberra and rarely be out of repeater range.

NEW UHF CB REPEATER FOR NORTHERN NSW

By the time this issue is released, UHF CBers along the far northern coast of NSW will be enjoying a new repeater on ch. 6/36.

Located at the Mallanganee Range, the repeater can be accessed from Mt Warning (south of Brisbane) to Yamba in NSW. This provides a coverage area which includes Casino, Lismore, Ballina and Byron Bay. It also extends seawards for some distance, which should be of interest to marine vessels using 477 MHz.

★ ★ ★ ★

A bit short on for news this issue, aren't we? Well, these were the only clubs that bothered to put pen to paper and contact me. I guess, I'll have to assume that all the others have folded or aren't doing anything interesting — after all, no-one has told me otherwise.

Get the hint?

Here's another clue — send info on your club's activities to Club News, PO Box 429 Milsons Point NSW 2061.

AUSTRALIAN UHF REPEATER LIST

AREA	CHANNEL	LOCATION	SPONSOR
New South Wales			
Newcastle	1/31	Charleston	—
Jindabyne	1/31	Corinya Alpine Centre	Marist Brothers
Sydney	1/31	Hurstville	Practronics
Corowa	1/31	Corowa	Corowa Electronics
Tamworth	1/31	Windworth	Landlink Communications
Harden	1/31	Mt Bobbara	—
Wilcannia	1/31	Murtee Station	—
Canberra	2/32	Isaacs Ridge	Philips Communications
Parkes	2/32	Parkes	Bionics Australia
Narrabri	2/32	Castletop Mountain	Lance Hannaford Elect.
Walbundrie	2/32	Walbundrie	—
Lismore	2/32	Raus	—
Murrundi	3/33	Liverpool Range	—
Sydney	3/33	Prospect	Philips Communications
Tenterfield	3/33	Mt McKenzie	Nathan Ross Electronics
Denniliquin	3/33	Denniliquin	Deniliquin Machinery
Tumbarumba	3/33	Mt Ikes	—
Armidale	4/34	Armidale	New England Mobile Comm's
Goulburn	4/34	Mt Gray	Double Diamond
Albury	4/34	Lavington	Albury Communications
Muswellbrook	4/34	Mt Arthur	General Communications
Bega	6/36	Mumbulla Mountain	Athol McCoy Two-Way Radio
Newcastle	6/36	New Lambton	General Communications
Coffs Harbour	6/36	Coffs Harbour	Country-wide Communications
Moree	6/36	Terry Hi-hi	Des Groth Radio-Electronics
Cowra	7/37	Bellview Hill	Harvey Electronic Service
Sydney	7/37	Chatswood	Philips Communications
Glen Innes	7/37	Mt Rumbee	Glen Innes Amatuer Radio Club
Bathurst	8/38	Mt Panorama	Serv-U Appliance Centre
Sydney outer-west	8/38	Kurmond	Riverlands Rpt Group
ACT			
Canberra	8/38	Isaacs Ridge	Philips-TMC
Victoria			
Hamilton	1/31	Mt Bainbridge	Hamilton Electronics
Bairnsdale	1/31	Mt Nugong	Bairnsdale Communications
Melbourne	1/31	Broadmeadows	Philips Communications
Alexandra	1/31	Mt Eildon	Weeks Radio
Moe	2/32	Moe	Gippsland Rpt Assoc.
Ballarat	2/32	Mt Buninyong	Central Highlands Rpt Assoc.
Weeaproinah	2/32	Weeaproinah	—
Melbourne	3/33	Lysterfield	Philips Communications
Yelta	3/33	Yelta	Nor-Co Sales & Service
Strathbogie Rngs	3/33	Mt Wombat	Goulburn-Murray Rpt Group
Bendigo	4/34	Specimen Hill	Central Vic. Rpt Assoc.
Carrajung	4/34	Carrajung	Carrajung UHF CB Rpt Assoc.
Hawkesdale	4/34	Hawkesdale	—
Melbourne	5/35	Olinda	Paravic Sports Assoc.
Ararat	6/36	Mt William	Mt William UHF Rpt Committee
Wangaratta	6/36	Warby Ranges	Corowa Electronics
Gippsland	7/37	Mt Taylor	Gippsland Rpt Assoc.
Shepparton	7/37	Shepparton	Angus Communications
Melbourne	7/37	Frankston	Powerband Communications
Bendigo	8/38	Mt Alexander	—
Portable Vic.	Various	State-wide	Omega Radio Club
Queensland			
Bundaberg	1/31	Mt Perry	Bundaberg HI-Fi Stereo
Mt Isa	1/31	Lake Julius	Qld Education Dept.
Brisbane	1/31	Mt Cotton	Philips Communications
Rockhampton	1/31	Mt Archer	Capricornia UHF Rpt Assoc.
Atherton-Mareeba	1/31	Rocky Creek	Marteens Electrtonics
Mt Stewart	1/31	Mt Stewart	Olbis Industries
Roma	1/31	Mt Bassett	Roma Teleradio
Clermont	1/31	Clermont	—
Gunalda	2/32	Mt Kanigan	Ralph Hill Electrical
Taroom	2/32	Mt Kinnoul	Taroom Rpt Assoc.
Toowoomba	2/32	Picnic Point	Custom Scientific Electronic
Marlborough	2/32	Broadsound Range	Marlborough UHF Rpt Assoc.
Quilpie	2/32	Trinidad Station	D.E.A. Pegler & Co.
Ingham	2/32	Mt Cudmore	R.E. Pugh

Mackay	3/33	Farleigh	Mackay Citizens' Rpt Group
Monto	3/33	Pine Mountain	Monto UHF Rpt Committee
Tin Can Bay	3/33	Double Island Point	Tin Can Bay Lions Club
Springsure	3/33	Rodda Lookout	Bauhina S.E.S.
Cairns	3/33	Mt Yarrabah	GCG Communications
Bajool	4/34	Mt Hopeful	Mt Hopeful UHF Rpt Assoc.
Dalby	4/34	Mt Mowbullan	G.T. Communications
Bundaberg	4/34	The Sloping Hummock	Bundaberg Hi-Fi Stereo
Goondiwindi	4/34	Goondiwindi	Border TV & Radio
Gold Coast	4/34	Coolangatta	Philips Communications
Brisbane	5/35	Mt Glorious	ACRM (Qld)
Caloundra	6/36	Bald Knob	Ralph Hill Electrical
Gladstone	6/36	Mt Larcom	Nixon Controls
Palm Island	6/36	Palm Island	Palm Island Council
Blackdown	6/36	Blackdown Tableland	Blackdown UHF Rpt Assoc.
Burnett Ranges	6/36	Mundubbera	Custom Scientific Electrical
Yaraka	7/37	Mt Slowcombe	Yaraka Rpt Assoc.
Brisbane	7/37	Toohey Mountain	Olbis Industries
Murgon	7/37	Mt England	Murgon Rpt Assoc.
Biloela	7/37	Mt Bertha	Biloela Rpt Assoc.

South Australia/ Northern Territory

Adelaide	1/31	Summerton	Philips Communications
Carrieton	1/31	Price Hill	—
Darwin	1/31	Darwin	Seascan Communications
Black Rock Peak	2/32	Black Rock Peak	Toops Electrical
Cleve	2/32	Mt Nield	Cleve Rpt Assoc.
Myponga	2/32	Myponga Hill	Volunteer Coast Guard
Adelaide	3/33	Trott Park	Philips Communications
Blinman	3/33	Patawarta Hill	—
Barossa Valley	4/34	Anguston	—
Kangaroo Island	4/34	Parndana	Kangaroo Island Rpt Assoc.
Snowtown	4/34	Snowtown	—
Naracoorte	4/34	Lucindale	Naracoorte UHF Rpt Assoc.
Adelaide	5/35	Hawthendorne	ACRM (SA)
Renmark	6/36	Renmark	—
Whyalla	6/36	Mt Laura	Gulf Communications
Clare	7/37	Quarry Hill	Mid-North Rpt Assoc.
Mt Gambier	7/37	The Bluff	South-east UHF Rpt Assoc.
Mt Bryan	8/38	Mt Bryan	Mt Bryan Rpt Assoc.
Port Lincoln	8/38	Tumby Bay	Sth Eyre Peninsula Rpt Assoc.

West Australia

Denmark	1/31	Denmark	—
Kellerberrin	1/31	Kellerberrin	Central Wheatbelt Rpt Group
Meekatharra	1/31	Hill View Station	—
Perth	1/31	Wanneroo	Philips Communications
Wickham	1/31	Wickham	Wickham Radio Club
Bencubin	2/32	Bencubbin	—
Bunbury	2/32	Shenton Ridge	Greyhound TV Sales
Albany	3/33	Mt Melville	—
Perth	3/33	Roleystone	Philips Communications
Boyup Brook	4/34	Dinninup	Boyup Brook Farm Comm's Group
Esperance	4/34	Esperance	—
Kulin	4/34	Kulin	—
Lancelin	4/34	Lake Karakin	Gingin Shire Council
Perth	5/35	Maddington	CREST (WA)
Margaret River	6/36	Ellen Brook	UHF Association of WA
Mt Marypeaks	6/36	Mt Marypeaks	—
Wyalkatchem	6/36	Wyalkatchem	D. & G. Pearce
Mt Barker	7/37	Mt Barker	Plantagenet Rpt Group
York	7/37	Mt Bakewell	York Rpt Group
Coolgardie	7/37	Mt Burgess	—
Manjimup	8/38	—	
Ravensthorpe	8/38	—	
Portable WA	8/38	WA-wide	Gary, WAX-723

Tasmania

Devenport	1/31	Roland	Rick Rickard, TAJ-652
Hobart	1/31	Grass Tree Hill	Southern Tas. Rpt Assoc.
Launceston	2/32	Mt Arthur	Launceston Rpt Assoc.
Devenport	3/33	Railton	Rick Rickard, TAJ-652
North-East Coast	3/33	Tower Hill	North-East Rpt Assoc.
Tasmanian Midlands	4/34	Millers Bluff	Midlands Rpt Group
Hobart	5/35	Mt Faulkner	CREST (Tas.)
East Coast	6/36	Mt Toombs	East Coast Rpt Assoc.
West Coasat	6/36	St Valentines Peak	North-West Coast Rpt Assoc.
Central Highlands	7/37	Barren Tier	Central Highlands Assoc.
Burnie	8/38	Round Hill	North-West Coast Rpt Assoc.
Hobart	8/38	Mt Nelson	Harts Pty Ltd
Portable Tas	Various	Tasmania-wide	Rick Rickard, TAJ-652

Coming soon...? Repeaters for Hounville (Southern Tasmania). Licences issued... two services for Devenport? 1/31 at Rowland, callsign SHF-01, and 3/33 Railton (SDE-03).

Please help us keep this list up to date and of use to UHF operators everywhere... send details of new repeaters, services, allocations (and any corrections to this list) to — CRA Repeater List, PO Box 358 Granville NSW 2142.

CB Action Club Register

NSW

AA UHF CB Radio Group, 13 The Circle Narraweena NSW 2099.
Amateur and Citizens Radio Club, 2 Griffith Ave, Roseville NSW 2069.
Argonauts Radio Contact Club, C/- PO Railway Town NSW 2880.
Barrenjoey Peninsula Area CB Radio Club, PO Box 25, Avalon NSW 2107.
Beef Country Radio & Recreation Club, PO Box 852, Casino NSW 2470.
Berowra CB Radio Club, PO Box 2, Berowra NSW 2081.
Blue Mountains Repeater Association, PO Box 358, Granville NSW 2142.
Bravo Victor Radio Club C/- 11 Canning St Bega NSW 2550.
BWA Boorowa CB Club, PO Box 34 Boorowa NSW 2586
CB Callbook Club of Licensed Operators, 18 Malvina Parade, Gorokan, NSW 2263.
Central Western Citizens Band Community Radio Club, PO Box 628 Orange NSW 2800.
Charlie Tango CB Radio Group, PO Box 295 Dee Why NSW 2099
CREST Citizens Radio Emergency Service Teams NSW C/- 9 Davies St. Dubbo NSW 2830
Disabled Water Sports Charity No 2023, C/- PO Saratoga NSW 2250.
Echo Victor Whiskey Radio Club of Newcastle, 6 Cheryl Close, Elermore Vale, NSW 2287.
Eleven Mike, PO Box 357, Singleton NSW 2330.
Eureka Base CB Radio Club Friends of Brain Injured Children, PO Box 12, Blacksmiths 2281.
G.L.C. Eastern Bases CB Radio Club, PO Box 767, Gosford NSW 2250.
FM CB Radio Owners Unite, PO Box 40, Gladesville, NSW 2111.
Gosford Citizens Radio Club, PO Box 447, Gosford NSW 2250.
Greater Cessnock City Radio Association, 48 Mayfield St, Cessnock NSW 2325.
Just Enough Radio Club PO Box 2799 Blayney NSW 2799.
Leisure Coast CB Radio Club, PO Box 1127, Wollongong, NSW 2500.
Lima Alpha Radio Club, PO Box 310, Lakemba, NSW 2195.
MacLeay Valley CB Radio Club PO Box 34, Kempsey NSW 2440.
Mallee Radio Australia CB Radio Club, PO Box 920, Griffith NSW 2680.
Metropolitan Radio Club, PO Box C31 Clarence St. Sydney NSW 2000.
Metropoiitan West Radio Club, 74 Van Diemen Ave, Willmot NSW 2770.
Mike India CB Radio Club, PO Box 778, Campbelltown NSW 2560.
Moonlighters District Radio Club, PO Box 13, Hawks Nest NSW 2324.
National Dingo Association C/- Smithville via Broken Hill NSW 2880.
Newcastle Cyclist CB Club, 3 Hill St, Wallsend NSW 2287.
North Shore Radio Club PO Box 236 Pymble NSW 2073.
November Alpha Club, PO Box 412, Narrandera NSW 2700.
Overland Radio Club Inc (Sydney Branch), PO Box 295, Dee Why Sydney NSW 2099.
Parkes Citizens Band Radio Club PO Box 525 Parkes NSW 2870.
Pathfinder CB Social Club of Aust. Queanbeyan/Canberra Div PO Box 771, Queanbeyan NSW 2620.
Pathfinder Radio Group NSW, PO Box 167, St Mary's NSW 2750.
Pioneer CB Radio and Social Club, PO Box 34, Boolaroo NSW 2284.
Radio Rescue Inc. (NSW) Branch Operations Director, Galong NSW 2585.
REACT NSW State Team, 476 Parkinson St, Albury, NSW 2640.
REACT 4WD Rescue Service, 476 Parkinson St, Albury NSW 2640.
Riverina Radio CB Social Club, 29 Parkinson Cres, Griffith NSW 2680.
Rough As Guts Radio (RAG), C/- PO Box 129 Wamberal NSW 2250
Skydivers CB Radio Club Unit 5/3 Washington Avenue, Riverwood NSW 2210.
Shallow Water Sierra Whisky Club, PO Box 857, Nowra NSW 2540.
Sydney Radio Group, PO Box 184, Northbridge NSW 2063.
Tango Romeo Echo CB Club, PO BOx 688, Taree NSW 2430.
Tango-X-ray Side-band Radio Club of Australia, PO Box 664, Castle Hill NSW 2154.
The Beam Club of Australia, PO Box 633, Brookvale NSW 2100.
The TT UHF CB Radio Club, c/o PO Box C31 Clarence St. Sydney NSW 2000.
Titan Radio Group, PO Box 195 Blacktown NSW 2148.
United Citizen Band Radio Clubs of NSW, PO Box 104, Strathfield, NSW 2135.
Viking CB Radio Club PO Box 133 Miller NSW 2168.
Western Radio Club PO Box 666 Blacktown NSW 2148.
Whisky Lima Radio Club PO Box 139 Revesby NSW 2212.
Williams Valley Radio Club PO Box 50 Dungong NSW 2420.
Wombat CB Radio Club, PO Box 348, Lavington NSW 2641.
YMCA-New England Emergency Radio Unit, PO Box 681 Armidale 2350.

WA

ACRM Australian Citizen Radio Monitors WA Inc., PO Cox 141 Capel WA 6271.
ACRM WA South West Division 68 Rogers Avenue, Katanning 6317.
Albany Commns Group 65 Hassells St. Elleker Albany WA 6330.
Alpha Whiskey Alpha Radio Club 180 Bay View Dve Little Grove Albany WA 6330.
Australian Radio Group, PO Box 1118, Fremantle 6160.
Aust Radio Group, PO Box 429, Merredin WA 6415.
Black Swans CQDX Club of WA, PO Box 220, Kwinana WA 6167.
Bunbury Radio Club Inc, PO Box 31, Bunbury WA 6230.
Canning River Radio Club, 53 Parkside Ave, Mt Pleasant WA 6153.
Carnarvon Radio Club, PO Box 294, Carnarvon WA 6701.
CREST WA (Inc) PO Box 1200, East Victoria Park WA 6101.
Echo Radio CB Club, PO Box 519, Claremont, WA 6010.
Freedom Group Perth, PO Box 9, Palmyra WA 6157.
Gascoyne CB Club PO Box 947 Carnarvon WA 6701.
Golden Hawk CB Radio Club of Australia, PO Box 1183, Bunbury WA 6230.
Katanning CB Club, C/- PO Box 51, Katanning 6317.
Kookaburra CB & Social Club, 453 Sevenoaks St., Beckenham 6107.
Perth Acrem and Mustang CB Social Club, PO Box 193, Greenwood WA 6024.
Pilbara Radio Group, PO Box 95, Parraburdoo WA 6754.
Port Hedland Whisky Alpha CB Club, PO Box 2142, South Hedland WA 6722.
Quokka Radio Club, PO Box 12 Rockingham WA 6168.
REACT WA State Team, 8B Frisby Crt, South Hedland, WA.
Sandgroper Club of South West WA PO Box 249 Collie WA 6225.
Scorpion Intnl CB Radio Club of WA PO Box 51 Rockingham WA 6168.
Southern River Radio Group PO Box 38 Kelmscott WA 6111
The Mango Club, PO Box 241, Hillarys WA 6025.
The UHF Assn of WA Inc, PO Box 176, Hillarys WA 6025.
Titan Radio Group, PO Box 210, Kwinana WA 6167.
Wanneroo Citizens Radio Emergency Services Teams WA Inc, PO Box 402, Wanneroo WA 6065.
Western Radio Club, PO Box 484, Collie WA 6225.
Wild Geese International Combat Veterans Radio Communications Group, PO Box 673, Cannington WA 6107.

QLD

ACRIM QLD Inc, PO Box 213, Everton Park Brisbane Qld 4053.
Alpha Whiskey, PO Box 936, Bundaberg, Qld 4670.
Alpha Whiskey Club, 49 Whylie St. Thabeban Bundaberg Qld 4670.
Australian Bulldog Club, 37 Sunderland St, Garbutt Townsville Qld 4814.
Australian International CB Social Club, PO Box 150, Inala Qld 4077.
Brisbane Volunteer Emergency Monitoring Service, 22 Reis St., Buranda 4012.
Bunya Radio Club, PO Box 575, Kingaroy Qld 4610.
CB Callbook Club of Licensed Operators PO Box 593 Palm Beach 4221.
Color Postcard Express International QSL and Postcard Swap Club (Australian Rep), PO Box 111, Oakey Qld 4401.
Delta United Radio Group Ltd, 3 Bedarra St, Inala 4077.
Dirty Water CB Club of Australia, PO Box 262, Bulimba Qld 4170.
Hervey Bay and District CB Club, PO Box 382, Pialba Qld 4655.
Inlanders CB Radio Club of Australia, PO Box 5712, Rockhampton Mail Centre Qld 4702.
KKK 106 Radio Club, PO Box 6547, Goldcoast Mail Centre Qld 4217.
Leichardt CB Radio Club, PO Box 941, Mt Isa Qld 4825.
Musketeer Club, PO Box 135, Ferny Grove 4055.
National Dingo Association, PO Box 34 Finch Hatton Qld 4756
Radio Rescue Inc. (Qld Bch) State President, 33 Sharon Cres, Kelso, Townsville 4815.
REACT QLD State Team, Box 5227, Cairns Mail Centre Nth Qld 4871.
Rockhampton Citizens Band Radio Club, PO Box 5230, Rockhampton Mail Centre 4702.
Rum City CB Club PO Box 229 Qld 4670
Sunshine Coast CB Radio Club, PO Box 379, Maroochydore, Qld 4558.
Southern Cross Radio Club Inc., PO Box 529, Darra, Qld 4076.
The United Pheasant Pluckers, South Calliope St, Springsure 4722.
Toowoomba District CB Club, PO Box 5387, Toowoomba Qld 4350.
Toowoomba Mountain CB Club, PO Box 5299, Toowoomba Qld 4350
Ultra-lite Radio Club of Australia, PO Box 191, Carina 4152.
Unicorn Radio of Australia PO Box 787 Woodridge Qld 4114.
Volunteer Emergency Monitors Caboolture, 96 Bishop St., Beachmere 4510.
Zodiac International DX Radio of Australia, PO Box 400, Zillmere, Qld 4034.
Zulu Alpha Foxtrot CB Radio Club, PO Box 5122, Rockhampton Mail Centre Qld 4701

CB Action Club Register

SA

Australian Association of Citizens Band Radio Operators Inc., PO Box 146 Plympton 5038.
Australian Citizen Radio Monitors SA Inc (ACRM), PO Box 83, Prospect SA 5082.
Australian Independent Monitoring Service Inc, SA Division, PO Box 86, Stepney SA 5069.
Buccaneer Radio Club, PO Box 239 Kilkenny 5009.
Charlie X-Ray Citizen's Band Radio Club Inc., PO Box 824, Salisbury SA 5108.
Christie's Beach Citizens Band Radio Club, PO Box 22, Moana SA 5169.
Coonawarra CB Radio Club, 2 Eyre St, Barmera SA 5345.
Eagle Radio Group, PO Box 302, Morphett Vale SA 5162.
Eureka Base CB Radio Club Friends of Brain Injured Children PO Box 633, Elizabeth 5112.
I Hate Washing Dishes, PO Box 210, McLaren Vale SA 5171.
Linear Radio Club, PO Box 70, Elizabeth Fields, SA 5113.
Modbury West QSL Club for Members of the Scout Association, PO Box 36 Modbury North SA 5092
Overland Radio Club Inc., PO Box 1010 Murray Bridge 5253.
REACT Marine Rescue Service, 1 Flavel Terrace, Murray Bridge, SA 5253.
REACT SA State Team, PO Box 1321, Murray Bridge 5253.
Riverland CB Club, PO Box 582, Loxton 5333.
Scorpion CB Radio Club, PO Box 312, Elizabeth SA 5112.
Southside CB Radio Club, PO Box 95, Glenelg SA 5045.
South West Radio and Social Club Inc, Box 381, Morphett Vale SA 5162.
Sovereign Base Social and Radio Club Inc. PO Box 526 Elizabeth 5112.
SPEAK Wireless Club International, PO Box 948, Murray Bridge 5253.
Strangers CB Social Club, PO Box 79, Ingle Farm SA 5098.
Trans-World CB Radio Club International, 90 Crozier Ave, Daw Park SA 5041.
Zulu Whiskey QSL Club, PO Box 16, Smithfield, SA 5114.

VIC

Alpha Hotel CB Radio Club, 6-14 Acacia Ave, Ararat 3377.
Australian Citizens Radio Monitors Gippsland PO Box 251 Morwell Vic 3840.
Australian Radio Social Club, PO Box 222, Seaford Vic 3198.
A1 U-Beaut Okker Radio Club of Aust. PO Box 150 Moe Vic 3840.
Baker Sugar Baker Social Radio Club, 34 Rodney St., Bendigo 3550.
Bell Bird Club of Vic, C/- PO Box 39, St Andrews Vic 3761.
Bendigo Radio CB and Social Club Inc. PO Box 862, Bendigo, Vic. 3550.
Bendigo Sideband Radio Club Inc., PO Box 277, Bendigo 3550.
Bingo Cheerio Group, PO Box 1292 Richmond North 3121.
Bravo Bravo CB Club,7 Yanakie St., Morwell 3840.
Bravo Mike Radio Club, PO Box 94, Melton Vic 3337.
Carrajung UHF CB Repeater Assn, PO Box 55, Port Albert Vic 3971.
CB Spoon Collectors Club, PO Box 251, Morwell Vic 3840.
Cobra FM CB Radio Club, PO Box 251 Morwell Vic 3840.
Cobram & District Coffee Club, PO Box 478, Cobram 3644.
De La Salle College UHF CB Class, 1818 High St., Malvern 3144.
Eureka Base CB Radio Club Friends of Brain Injured Children, PO Box 251, Morwell Vic 3840.
Falcon Radio, PO Box 104, Port Fairy 3284.
Fosters CB Radio Club, PO Box 229, Cranbourne Vic 3977.
Gippsland CREST, PO Box 460, Warragul 3820.
Gippsland Emergency Monitoring Service (Inc) PO Box 983 Morwell Vic 3840.
Gippsland Repeater Assocn, PO Box 77, Sale Vic 3850.
Goulburn Murray Repeater Group Inc, PO Box 250 Euroa 3666.
Grampians BC Club, C/- J. Delley, 1 Johnston St, Stawell Vic 3380.
Horsham CB Club, PO Box 730, Horsham Vic 3400.
International Crusade Assocn, PO Box 2616W, GPO Melbourne Vic 3001.
Jack Daniels Whisky Club PO Box 278 Preston Vic 3072.
Kilowatt Radio Club of Australia, PO Box 428, Mt Eliza Vic 3930.
Mary Delta 27 MHz Radio Club, 31 Rosebud Pde, Rosebud Vic 3939.
Mike India CB Radio Club, PO Box 1499, Mildura Vic 3500.
Mongrel Radio Social Club, 43 Bannister St. Nth Bendigo 3550.
Nightowl Radio Club of Victoria, PO Box 97, Huntingdale Vic 3166.
Omega Radio Club of Victoria, PO Box 50, Chadstone Centre Vic 3148.
Queensland Blue Heeler Social Radio Club, PO Box 649 Geelong Vic 3220.
Radio Charity Group, Latrobe Valley, PO Box 237, Churchill Vic 3842.
Radio Emergency Associated Communications Team, 113 Blair St, Portland 3303.
Radio Enthusiasts Club of the Blind, PO Box 219, Glenroy Vic 3046.
Radio Rescue Inc. (Vic) Regional Co-ordinator, 117 Bruce Rd, Safety Beach 3936.
REACT VIC State Team, 5 Damian Crt, Wodonga Vic 3690.
REACT 4WD Rescue Service, 5 Damian Crt, Wodonga 3690.
Region Dandenong CB Radio and Social Club, PO Box 57, Doveton Vic 3177.
Ringwood & District Radio & Social Club, PO Box 496, Croydon 3136.
Riviera Radio Club of Australia, C/- P. Robertson, 19 Taylor St, Bairnsdale Vic 3875.
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol, PO Box 182 Brighton Vic 3186.
Ethnic Ether (Double EE) Assocn, 31 Bride St Hampton Park Vic. 3976.
Scramblers CB Radio Club of Vic., PO Box 103, Braybrook, Vic. 3019.
Sierra X-Ray Radio Group, 18 Crinigan Rd, Morwell 3840.
Southern Cross Radio Group, PO Box 365, Leongatha Vic 3953.
Sovereign Radio Club, PO Box 21, Sebastapol, Ballarat Vic 3356.
Tango Victor Radio Club, PO Box 3, Timboon Vic 3268.
The Black Panther DXing Social Club, PO Box 527 Bendigo Vic 3550.
The Kelly Radio Group Victoria, PO Box 39 St. Andrews Vic 3761.
The Thunder Down Under Club, PO Box 1149, Hoppers Crossing 3030.
Ultra-Hi Club, 8 Peter St, Bell Post Hill Vic 3215.
Victorian Scorpion Radio Club (South Gippsland), 39 Quigley St, Morwell Vic 3840.
Victorian Sideband Pirates 52-Xray Group, c/o PO Box 297, Moorabbin 3189.
Victoria UHF Radio Club Inc, PO Box 407 Mount Waverley Vic 3149.
Whisky Bravo Social and Charity CB Radio Club Inc., PO Box 614 Moe Vix 3825.
28 Whiskey Group Social Club Base of Vic, PO Box 755 Moe Vic 3825.

TAS

Blue Lagoon Social Radio Club, 9 Walker St. Ulverstone Tas. 7315.
FIB UHF Club, PO Box 18, Ridgley Tas 7321.
LT Club Incorporated, PO Box 626 Launceston 7250.
REACT Tasmania State Team, RMB 7055, National Park, Tas. 7140.
Sierra Tango Radio Club, PO Box 433, New Norfolk Tas 7140.
Ulverstone Radio Operators Club PO Box 432 Ulverstone Tas 7315.
United Frequency Operators of Tasmania, 7 Jacob Ave, Georgetown Tas 7253.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Australian Citizen Radio Monitors, NT branch Inc, PO Box 40327, Casuarina NT 5792.
Darwin CB Radio Club, PO Box 40733, Casaurina, NT 5792.

INTERNATIONAL

Alfa Tango International DX Group, PO Box 140 14100 ASTI, Italy.
Dayglo QSL Club, 13 Synite Place, Rostrevor, BT34-3EP, Co Down, Northern Ireland, UK.
Ethnic Ether (Double EE) Assocn, 31 Bride St Hampton Park Vic 3976
Gumboot QSL Club, PO Box 4127, New Plymouth 4630 New Zealand.
Lakeside QSL Club of Australia PO Box 593 Palm Beach Qld, Australia 4221.
Lima Delta Association, PO Box 63 Dunstable BEDS LU6 3DR England.
REACT Australia Inc. Headquarters, 1 Flavel Tce, Murray Bridge 5253.
REACT International Inc., 242 Cleveland, Wichita KS 67214 USA.
REACT NZ CH5000, PO Box 22 — 527 Christchurch, NZ.
Three Vikings QSL Club, PO Box 34, 642 21 Katrineholm Sweden.
Unite Mike Mike International, PO Box 23, B4650, Herve, Belgium.
Wainui Radio Club, PO Box 836, Wellington NZ.

ACT

Pioneer Radio Assocn. ACT Group, PO Box 76, Curtin, Canberra 2605.

To get your clubs name in the register, simply fill in the form in this issue of the magazine. Send your club news to the address included in the Club News page.

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HATADI PEARCE-SIMPSON'S 'SOUND ADVISER'

SEPT-OCT 1987

FIRST AGAIN!

The 1987 Redex Bush Bash, Australia's wackiest car rally is over — and Pearce-Simpson, supplier of CB radios to the 100 contestants, came first again for their reliability and rugged construction.

From Bourke, through Longreach to the glorious Great Barrier Reef, in vehicles that must be more than 21 years old — the trek is gruelling, and the emphasis is on fun. Where else could you cheat and bribe your way to the top, lose points for being "too serious", and at the same time raise money to support Australia's needy children?

As with last year's Bash, Hatadi were there — official suppliers of two-way radio to the rally. Shown above are the staff from our Sydney head office, with our entry — a Rover 2000, car number "10-4".

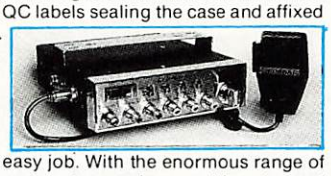
We fitted the Rover with 27 MHz AM/SSB gear from Pearce-Simpson, a Royce TS-133 UHF, and a Cobra radar detector. And just to make the trip more bearable, in went some of the new car hi-fi equipment from Pearce-Simpson.

The tough course took its toll on the car — but not the two-way radio or the hi-fi. So, ask yourself — could your CB radio survive a week-long rally, and outlast your car?

MPROVED QC = IMPROVED CB!

e are now completing Stage 1 of our new quality ntrol (QC) program.

his will ensure that Pearce-Simpson remain ustralia's most popular and most reliable brand CB radios. Starting with the SSB models, the dependent testing of these units will be verified special QC labels sealing the case and affixed the box.



s not an easy job. With the enormous range of earce-Simpson transceivers selling tens of ousands every year, it will take time. But we ow it is time well spent — and means even less ance than ever of the buyer ending up with a it that fails to perform.

hen fully implemented, the program will ensure at all Pearce-Simpson CB radios will be gorously bench-tested and checked before aving the warehouse here in Australia.

earce-Simpson — Australia's best CB radios are tting even better!

10 YEARS OF CB RADIO

In July of this year, Australian CB radio celebrated its tenth birthday. And the leading brand from 1977 is still around today, stronger than ever. Yes, it's Pearce-Simpson — Australia's number 1 CB radio.

Remember the classic Super Panthers — many of which are still in trucks all along our highways? Remember the Bengal base stations? Ten years on, and Pearce-Simpson is still king of the jungle. With a range of radios from handhelds to mobiles, bases and emergency radios. On 27 MHz, HF and VHF marine, and 477 MHz UHF CB.

And there's more to Pearce-Simpson than just two-way radio. Answering machines, cordless telephones, car stereo and speakers — all distributed across Australia by the thousand-strong Hatadi dealer network.

In ten years time, as the year 2000 approaches, your Pearce-Simpson CB radio will still be hard at work for you.

NEW! NEW! NEW!

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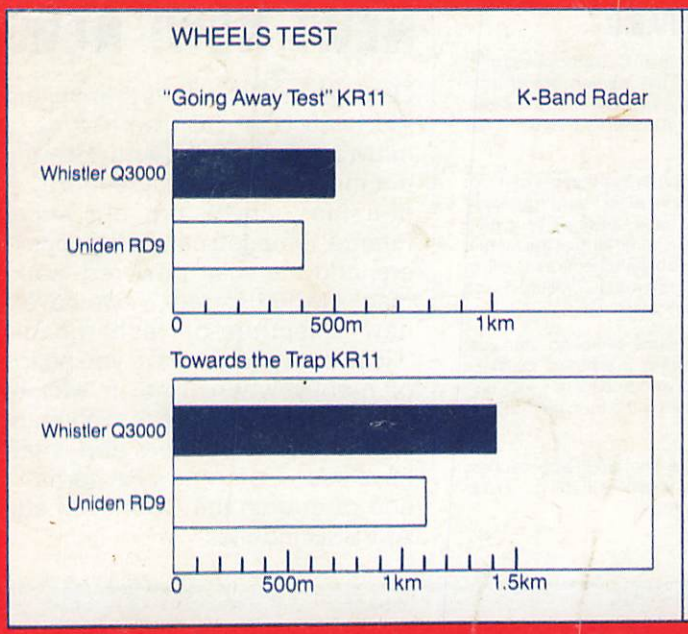
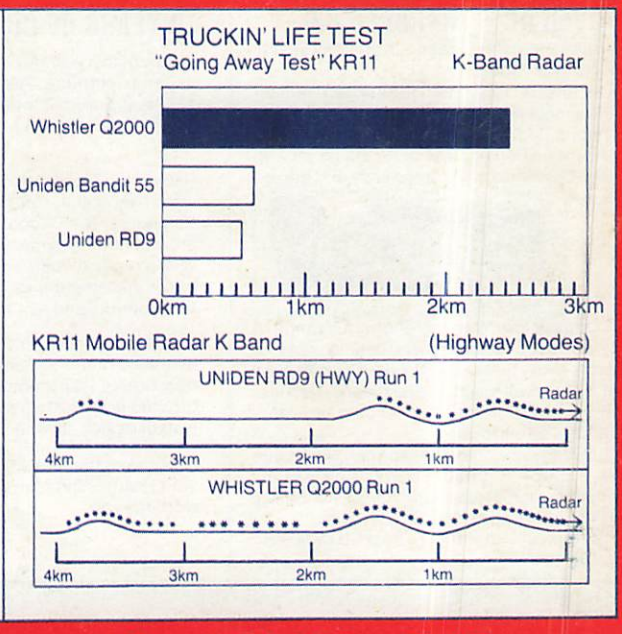
The following are **extracts** from the Wheels and Truckin' Life tests.





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